



THE PORTUGAL News

Portugal's **National** Newspaper in English

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P. 34

15 May 2010 • Edition N° 1061 • €1.50 inc. IVA • Publisher: Paul Allen-Luckman • Editor: Brendan de Beer • www.theportugalnews.com

Pope breaks silence on child abuse scandals

The papal visit to Portugal this week attracted international attention when the Pope decided to speak to the media for the first time since the child abuse scandal within the Catholic Church reached global proportions. (See Page 4)

Europe looks to improve oil rig safety

As the oil slick off the southern coast of the United States continues to grow by more than 200,000 gallons of crude a day, European officials have moved to ensure a disaster of similar proportions is averted here. (See Page 5)

Algarve looks to be more disabled-friendly

The Regional Algarve Tourism Board has this week unveiled its intention to improve facilities in the Algarve for the disabled, aiming to make it more adequate for their needs and in turn welcome a sector that had previously been unexplored. (See Page 6)

Sir Cliff celebrates lifetime landmarks with a 'Sparkler'

After suffering a series of knock-backs that delayed its launch by nearly a year, **The Portugal News** this week went to find out some more about what is behind Sir Cliff Richard's eagerly-anticipated celebratory Sparkling Wine. (See Page 8)

Benfica crowned kings of Portuguese football

Benfica have been crowned Liga Sagres champions after a nail biting season that was only decided on the final day. (See Page 64)

Weekend weather

Lisbon: The capital will be one of the warmest places in Portugal next week as summer makes an early appearance. **Faro:** The Algarve will record one of its best weeks so far next week as thermometers creep into the mid-20s with blue skies dominating. The weather is set to improve again on Tuesday. **The North:** Oporto will be warmer than the Algarve next week and very little cloud cover is predicted.

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Statistics continue to confound reality as Portugal reports its biggest economic growth in years

ECONOMIC MIRACLE

Full story, see p.2.



Pope Benedict XVI offers a gift to Portuguese Prime Minister José Sócrates during a meeting in Lisbon on Tuesday. (Photo: EPA/L'Osservatore Romano)

THE PORTUGAL
NewsANGLOPRESS
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Contacts

Postal Address: Apt 13 • 8401-901 • Lagoa

Courier: Rua Município de S. Domingos • Urb. Lagoa Sol • Lote 3 r/c • 8400-415 Lagoa

Tel: 707 500 655 (+351 282 341 100)

Newsdesk: 707 500 655 (+351 282 380 313)

Sales: 707 500 677 (+351 282 380 310)

Classified: 707 500 646 (+351 282 380 315)

Fax: Gen 707 941 201 (+351 282 341 201)

Fax: Sales: 707 942 053 (+351 282 352 053)

Email: info@theportugalnews.com
sales@theportugalnews.com

Web: www.theportugalnews.com

Print & Distribution

Printers: MIRANDELA Gráfica, Lisbon

Tiragem: 21,107 copies this week

Distributors: VASP

Member of apct audited circulation

Production

Publisher: Paul Luckman • publisher@theportugalnews.com

Editor: Brendan de Beer • newsdesk@theportugalnews.com

Production: Madeline Luckman • copy@theportugalnews.com

Journalists: Carrie-Marie Bratley • Tommy Broad

Classifieds: Rebecca Andrade

Paws & Claws: Raquel Salbany

Travel: Sherry Hughes

Photos: LUSA • Press Association • Portugal News

Sales Team

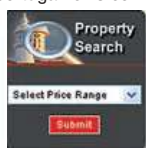
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Bella Talhadas 914 393 736 • 707 500 677
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Economic Miracle

Brendan de Beer

Portugal's latest economic figures have surprised even the most optimistic observers as it recorded its best growth since 2007 while reporting the biggest percentage increase anywhere in Europe for the first quarter of 2010. These figures were released at a time when the government is preparing widespread austerity measures in a bid to calm markets and avoid contagion from the Greek debt crisis.

Prime Minister José Sócrates was left counting his blessings on Wednesday after it became apparent the Portuguese economy had registered 1.7 percent year-on-year growth in its Gross Domestic Product.

According to the National Statistics Office (INE), quarterly growth was fixed at one percent, confirming Portugal had emerged from technical recession after also reporting an increase during the final quarter of 2009. The INE also explained that GDP year-on-year increase in the first quarter of 2010 was partially associated to a base effect (in the first quarter of 2009, GDP diminished 3.7 percent year-on-year), with "domestic demand and external demand balance registering an increase in their respective contributions, more intense in the first case."

Speaking shortly after an audience with Pope Benedict XVI, the prime minister emphatically announced that Portugal had achieved the best economic growth in Europe and that it is the first country to emerge from the recession.

Earlier this week, Prime Minister José Sócrates had also revealed that exports had risen by nine percent over the first two months of the year while car production reported year-on-year growth of 34 percent for the combined period of January and February.

"These are very positive signs that leave me very confident in relation to the evolution of the Portuguese economy", said the prime minister.

But not willing to rest on the laurels of these statistics, the minority ruling-Socialists and the opposition Social Democrats this week sat around the same table to conjure a deal containing a wide array of what will undoubtedly be unpopular austerity measures.

Shortly before going to press on Thursday, Prime Minister José Sócrates and opposition leader Pedro Passos Coelho were finalising a deal to bring the country's spiraling budget deficit down to acceptable proportions.

The first measure will be to push up VAT on all levels, including basic necessities, by one

percent. All citizens will also face an additional tax on their wages. Civil servants and private employees earning €2,375 or less will pay an extra one percent IRS, while those earning more than this value will be subject to an income tax of 1.5 percent while company taxes (IRC) will be increased by at least two percent.

A proposal to announce a tax on all Christmas bonuses paid to workers seems, for now, to have been left on the backburner.

In the meantime, and what appears to be a bid to soften the blow of these taxes, which has attracted vehement opposition of unions and leftist parties, the government is preparing to cut the salaries of all politicians, public directors and members of state watchdog organisations by five percent.

With these measures, the government is looking to rake in an additional 1.7 billion euros which will bring the deficit down to 7.3 percent from a current figure that currently borders on ten percent.

The European Union is forecasting Portugal will end the year with a budget deficit of 8.5 percent.

The government has declined to follow the example of Greece and Spain and said it would not implemented hefty civil service pay cuts in order remedy Portugal's struggling accounts.

"We here in Portugal will move forward with our own measures and we will also announce them in the very near future, but there is no need to copy what others have done", explained Finance

Minister Teixeira dos Santos shortly before the austerity measures were to be released.

Immediate reaction to these proposed measures on international markets was positive, with Portugal's credit-default swaps tumbling on Thursday to levels that are now in line with those in Spain and Ireland.

A combination of Portugal's sweeping austerity measures, coupled with the positive economic figures released this week appear to have contributed to the country now finally moving toward stability and be less prone to speculators.

Portugal's situation was further boosted earlier in the week when the EU's Economy and Finance Council (Ecofin) reached an agreement on a loan package of more than 500 billion euros allocated to cover the needs of members with solvency problems and to defend the euro.

The EU explained the European stabilisation mechanism includes an aid facility to balance of payments to a value of 60 billion euros with the Union's own resources as guarantee, plus 440 billion euros in funds or guarantees supplied by the Eurozone member states, as well as a quantity from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to the value of at least half of Europe's contribution.

The agreed aid package will be added to the 110 billion euros that has been assigned to the rescue of Greece, which the Europeans and the IMF will begin to pay out immediately, the EU said.

Allgarve unveils record number of events

Brendan de Beer

Launched back in 2007, 'Allgarve' is programme consisting of a wide range of events that are staged in the Algarve. Initially, 'Allgarve' was created to cover the summer period, when most visitors are in southern Portugal, but with the release of this year's events' schedule, the programme is now running into December.

Backed by total investments in excess of four million euros, more than 90 different events are lined up in this year's packed programme.

Lagos will welcome the Barcelona-based La Fura dels Baus at the end of August, a moonlight opera at Silves Castle and the world premier of the Churchill musical at the Lagoa auditorium are but just some of the events residents and visitors to the Algarve can look forward to between now and the end of the year.

Speaking in Faro upon the official launch of this year's programme, the President of Algarve Tourism (ERTA), Nuno Aires explained that 'Allgarve' has as-



The state secretary for Tourism, Bernardo Trindade, during a presentation of the events which form part of the Allgarve/10 programme on May 6th in Faro. (Photo: Lusa / Luis Forra)

sisted in the fighting the effects of the region's seasonal nature adding that the ERTA was "already working on compiling the list of events for 2011".

Earlier, Mr Aires explained that in 2010, "We looked to create a programme that practically

covers the entire year, offering events in periods where there are fewer leisure activities for tourists but who have come to the Algarve in the low-season. Through this [programme], we are looking to attract greater influxes of tourists to the region in

the medium and long term."

State-Secretary for Tourism, Bernardo Trindade said 'Allgarve' is becoming increasingly "important for tourism in the region", adding that tourist figures are showing signs of recovery, despite only being "tenuous".



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Pope breaks silence on child abuse scandals

The Pontiff's first visit to Portugal this week marked the 10th anniversary of the beatification of two of the three shepherd children that many faithful believe saw visions of the Virgin Mary near the central town of Fátima in 1917.

The fifth papal visit to the country follows a trip by the late John Paul II in 2000 to thank Our Lady of Fátima for saving him from an assassination attempt in St. Peter's Square in Rome.

Lisbon's Auxiliary Bishop Carlos Azevedo said Benedict XVI was bringing a message directed at "the spiritual crisis" which lies at "the root" of other crises, namely the world's current financial and economic plight.

The Pope aimed to "awaken Christians from sleep and Europe from decadent values", the bishop said.

During the visit that runs through until this Friday, the Pope met with President Cavaco Silva and with Prime Minister José Sócrates.

Officials described the security and civil defence operation surrounding the visit as the biggest such operation ever organised in Portugal. They underlined, however, that there was "no special threat" to the pontiff, who attracted huge crowds at all three venues.

Police estimated that up to 300,000 people turned out to see the Pope in Lisbon and up to 200,000 would gather in northern Oporto at the end of the visit Friday.

The biggest crowd - up to 500,000 - was at Fátima.

Anti-HIV/AIDS activists critical of the Vatican's position were using Facebook to mobilize support for a plan to distribute 28,000 condoms in Lisbon and Oporto during the visit.

But they excluded Fátima from the campaign.

In Portugal, Benedict XVI finds a country where 9 million of the population of more than 10 million consider themselves Catholic, but where only about 2 million practice their faith, according to the last 2001 census.

Prime Minister José Sócrates' Socialist administration has given

Pope Benedict XVI arrived in Lisbon on Tuesday for a four-day visit to Portugal that will also take him to Oporto and Our Lady of Fátima's shrine amid what officials call the country's greatest security operation ever. The Pope's plane was escorted in Portuguese airspace by two Air Force jetfighters. However, the papal visit to Portugal attracted international attention when the Pope decided to speak to the media for the first time since the child abuse scandal within the Catholic Church reached global proportions.



Pope Benedict XVI during Mass in Terreiro do Paco overlooking the Tagus River on May 11th. Pope Benedict XVI is on a four day official visit to Portugal to attend the annual celebrations of the 13 May 1917 apparition of Mary to the three shepherds and the 10th year of their beatification. (Photo: EPA/Ettore Ferrari)

public employees a day off in Lisbon and Oporto during the Pope's visit to the two cities, a measure criticised by associations of parents worried over what to do with school-aged children.

Paul VI was the first pope to visit Portugal in 1967, coming as a "pilgrim", rather than on a state visit, in a show of displeasure over Lisbon's three-front colonial wars in Africa.

A devotee of Our Lady of

Fátima, John Paul II visited three times in 1982, 1991 and 2000.

But international focus of the trip shifted to the paedophile scandals rocking the Catholic Church across the globe marked the start of Pope Benedict XVI's visit to Portugal on Tuesday, with the Pontiff saying his personal suffering over the "truly terrifying" issue was great.

The "greatest persecution" facing the Church comes not from

"enemies outside" the faith, but are "born from sin within the Church", the Pope told journalists flying with him from Rome to Lisbon.

"The Church has a deep need to relearn penitence, to accept purification, to implore pardon", he said, referring to the paedophile scandals, before his arrival in the Portuguese capital.

The Portuguese Church has so far largely escaped headline-grab-

bing stories of child abuse by priests that have shaken churches elsewhere around the globe.

The Portuguese Armed Forces' chief chaplain said later that the Pope's stance on clerical abuse of children is a clear sign the pontiff will not flee the issue during his visit to Portugal.

"This courage is like that of one who directs an orchestra and does not flee from the rhythm", Bishop Januário Torgal Ferreira said, re-

ferring to comments made by the Pope.

The bishop said the pope was giving the issue "the relevance and importance" it deserved.

Regarding other matters, Pope Benedict also called for "respectful dialogue" between the Catholic Church, the world of culture and science and other faiths.

The Pope made his appeal on the second day of his visit to Portugal before a gathering of 1,500 cultural leaders and representatives of the country's evangelical, Jewish, Muslim and Hindu communities at Belem Cultural Centre.

The German pontiff, speaking in Portuguese, acknowledged the church had much to learn about interaction with other conceptions and other faiths.

"The respect for other 'truths' or the truth of others is a learning process that the Church itself is undergoing", he said. "Within this respectful dialogue, new doors for the communication of truth may be opened".

"Today culture reflects a 'tension', which at times takes the form of 'conflict', between the present and tradition", he said, adding that there was a danger of "absolutising the present" at the expense of "past cultural heritage" and "without delineating the future".

He underlined the "millenarian influence of Christianity" in Portugal, echoing comments he made on the first day of his visit on Tuesday when he challenged Portugal to champion the Christian legacy in Europe.

"A people that forgets what its truth becomes lost in the labyrinths of time and of history, without clearly defined values, without grand, clearly announced objectives", the pope said.

The pontiff received a standing ovation at the opening of the cultural and ecumenical gathering, when the dean of Portuguese cinema, filmmaker Manoel de Oliveira, aged 101, spoke of his "deep veneration" for Benedict XVI.

Saying he shared "the values of the Christian family", de Oliveira described both art and religion as directed towards "humanity and the divine essence". TPN/Lusa

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Europe looks to improve oil rig safety

✶ Brendan de Beer

European Commissioner Günther Oettinger this week gathered leading members of the oil and gas production industry to ensure all is done to avoid disasters such as the one currently taking place in the United States.

"No regulatory regime alone can give us 100 percent guarantees of safety", Mr Oettinger said in a statement this week, adding: "I wish to make sure that the necessary legislation is in place and effectively implemented and that, at the same time, all possible efforts are made by the industry to avoid a similar accident and consequent oil spill."

"Politics and business need to work together to ensure that the European environment and the public are as safe as they possibly can be", concluded the Commissioner.

While the EU has admitted that oil and gas exploration and production operations off-shore in Europe are not taking place in the same extreme conditions as those in the Gulf of Mexico, the EU must also deal with the possibility of an accident near its shore.

In the meeting between, EU Commissioner Oettinger and high level representatives of major oil and gas companies, the EU sought to gain reassurance that the public can feel safe about continued off-shore operations near the EU coast.

The meeting reportedly also served as an opportunity for the Commissioner of International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, Kristalina Georgieva to present the 'Preparedness and Response Plans' to marine pollution incidents.

The European Commission stressed this week that in case of accidents, offshore drilling operations are subject to the relevant EU environmental legislation, including directives on environmental impact assessment, habitats and wild birds' directives, environmental liability, and the Water Framework directive for coastal waters.

While the responsibility lies with the affected coastal state, the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) supports the pollution response actions.

EMSA has a fleet of oil recovery vessels under contract in the different EU seas, which can be mobilized on request under the Civil Protection

As the oil slick off the southern coast of the United States continues to grow by more than 200,000 gallons of crude a day, European officials have moved to ensure a disaster of similar proportions is averted here. A Florida-based sea-current expert has told **The Portugal News** that the chances of the slick reaching Portuguese shores are "extremely unlikely". Meanwhile, opposition here is growing to proposed plans for drilling off the Algarve coast.



Deckhand Carlos Garmendo looks out at the raft meant to help with the clean up of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico on May 9th. (Photo: EPA / Dan Anderson)

Mechanism of the EU.

Meanwhile, Tony Sturges, a professor emeritus in oceanography at Florida State University, has this week quelled concerns that the powerful Gulf Stream could push the oil slick across the Atlantic Ocean to wash up on Portuguese shores.

A so-called Loop Current emanates in the warm Caribbean waters before travelling in a clockwise pattern toward Florida, when it ends up as one of the ocean's strongest conveyor belts known as the Gulf Stream, which travels from west to east.

Concerns were raised this week that the slick could eventually reach Europe, but Professor Sturges, without completely ruling out this possibility, believes such a scenario is improbable as things stand now.

"Anyone who tells you they know the answer is being wildly optimistic; we can all give you a good guess", he told **The Portugal News** from Florida this week.

"My own personal guess is that it is extremely unlikely that anything from this spill could

reach the coast of Europe for many, many months," assured Professor Sturges.

"It is more likely that you could have your own spill than that this one will harm your shores", he added referring to the 2002 Prestige oil disaster which had prolonged adverse effects on the beaches of Portugal, Spain and France.

"We do not know if the spill will hit the east coast of Florida" let alone Europe, he added.

Earlier, Tony Sturges had told National Geographic that if the oil were to be swept up into the Loop Current — which moves at about 1 to 2 metres a second — "there's essentially no way to stop it."

"Once [oil] gets into the loop current, you can bet the farm it will go around to the south" of the Florida Peninsula and into the Gulf Stream, which hugs Florida's eastern coast, he added.

"If you're at the top of a hotel in Miami Beach, you can see the Gulf Stream," Sturges revealed, and that means oil may easily wash ashore on the state's famous beaches.

Meanwhile, the Portuguese government has this week been called upon not to sign a contract that will allow oil exploration off the Algarve coast.

Bearing in mind the risk of a possible environmental disaster in the Algarve, Mendes Bota MP has demanded the government reassess plans to sign contracts.

Mendes Bota has been a long-time campaigner against attempts by the government to turn the region into what he described would become "a gigantic drilling field."

However, the State Secretary for Tourism, Bernardo Trindade, told reporters in Faro that the concerns of Mendes Bota are "lateral issues" and they are not "currently up for discussion, nor do they deserve any sort of comment".

But Mendes Bota, while saying the fact that these contracts could be signed in the very near future "is an extremely disconcerting development", has also filed a parliamentary request over the amount being paid by oil companies for the right to search for oil off the Algarve coast.

The issue of oil exploration in

southern Portugal has died down in recent years after reaching fever pitch in 2007. Back then, the government shrugged off concerns from interest groups in the Algarve, especially those linked to the tourist industry regarding news oil companies would be initiating exploration activities off the region's coastline.

With the project on ice for several years now, authorities in the Algarve had grown increasingly optimistic that plans of building oil platforms off the region's coast would remain on paper and not be transformed into reality.

Three years ago, Lisbon authorities had said that oil exploration in the Algarve had not yet commenced solely due to difficulties in "reconciling the agendas of Repsol and RWE" to sign Portuguese government contracts.

The Spanish and German companies (Repsol and RWE Dea, respectively) reportedly paid the Portuguese state 286,000 euros for rights to drill in the Algarve.

Mendes Bota voiced his disgust to **The Portugal News** in 2007, saying: "This is unbeliev-

able — it is like being punched in the stomach. I have to keep pinching myself — is this April 1st or something? What a terrible joke!"

"Here in the Algarve our oil is tourism. Can you imagine the negative impact oil exploration platforms will have on the environment? It does not matter how far off shore they are — oil spillage does not respect distance."

He claims that tourism represents the country's principle industry and for the government to even consider putting it at risk was "astonishing". He recently added that an oil spill could cause prolonged damage to Algarve beaches, coupled with the negative impact oil platforms will have on eco-systems.

The areas in question, which cover more than six thousand square kilometres, known as Block 13 and Block 14, lie between Quarteira and Vila Real Santo António.

Drilling, should it take place, is expected to occur at a depth of 200 metres, with the area off the protected Ria Formosa detected with promising indications that oil could in fact exist not too far from the coastline.

According to the terms of the 2007 proposed contract, the initial period for exploration is over a period of eight years, with a clause existing for future extension should both signatories believe the project to remain a viable one.

It is estimated that in the event of an oil discovery, the state will receive 25 cents a barrel in Block 13 and 10 cents in Block 14.

The two blocks have been named Lagosta and Lagostim.

Upon an eventual oil discovery, the companies will immediately be entitled to a 30-year exploration period in the Algarve, which could be extended to up to 55 years.

This particular area of the Algarve has already been subject to searches for oil in the past.

In 1974, Chevron and Challengier were awarded short-term contracts and Esso back in 1980.

However, the two companies currently in question, while seeing it fit to spend the money to obtain the drilling rights, were the sole applicants in a tender launched in July 2003.

Scientists have regularly expressed the opinion that Portugal contains all the necessary ingredients to be an oil producer, but drilling from Oporto in the north and Leiria further south, has to date only resulted in the extraction of 1,600 barrels of oil.

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Tourist Board aiming to make Algarve more disabled-friendly

 Carrie-Marie Bratley



The Regional Algarve Tourist Board (ERTA) has this week revealed its intention to improve facilities in the Algarve for disabled tourists, aiming to make the region more adequate for their needs and in turn become more appealing as a destination to a sector that had previously been unexplored.

Dr. António Almeida Pires, Vice-President of the ERTA, told **The Portugal News** this week that improving facilities for visitors with disabilities was at the forefront of the Board's concerns.

"This conversation has come at a good time precisely as the ERTA has deemed it fundamental and strategic for the region to approach the question of accessibility throughout Algarvean terrain, and believes it is just as strategic to 'Flag' the Algarve as an accessible destination, as well as making it a distinguishing feature", he said from the ERTA headquarters in Faro.

At the end of last year, Dr. Pires was handed a dossier on the subject and confessed "It is a subject I was not properly familiarised with".

"If you were to ask me how many hotels, units, or open spaces are properly equipped then we will start a conversation that won't get us anywhere be-

cause first we have to define the concept [of accessibility]", he said, indicating that "there is an immensity of disabilities".

"According to statistics around 10 percent of the population suffers from some form of disability", the ERTA Vice-President revealed, adding "as a general rule they travel accompanied by at least one other person".

"We are talking about numbers that from a tourism point of view are extraordinarily important and strategic to the Algarve".

For this the ERTA is in the process of developing a "Code of Good Practices" to make the region more accessible and attractive to disabled tourists.

"We must not be hypocritical, accessible tourism [could be] a community and economic activity that has been unexplored", he said.

An invitation was extended to companies specialising in accessibility to present proposals sug-

gesting how to improve the Algarve as a disability-friendly destination and develop a long-term strategic process to achieve such.

Three proposals are currently on the table and comprise "differentiated elements that are properly prepared for receiving a multitude of people who do not travel, exactly because the destinations are not duly equipped to receive them".

"Three companies are willing to define strategic points to develop accessible tourism in the Algarve", he affirmed.

While very little has so far been made public, Dr. Pires believes the procedure is now in the "final stretch".

To further stress the importance of the matter the ERTA, in collaboration with the Portuguese Tourism Board, have organized a first International Conference on Accessible Tourism, which will be held in the Algarve on May 28th.

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The four-day Vodafone Rally de Portugal will storm into the Algarve on May 27. This sixth round of the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) is set to be a thrilling, high octane highlight of the 2010 calendar, with the BP Ford Abu Dhabi World Rally Team revving up its pursuit of a third Manufacturers' Title.

Abu Dhabi is the WRC's Official Destination Partner, a core element of Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority's (ADTA) global motorsport commitment, which also includes partnerships with the Red Bull Air Race World Championship, UIM F1 Powerboat World Championship and the Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge.

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As WRC's Official Destination partner, ADTA, in conjunction with **The Portugal News**, is offering four lucky readers the chance to win an exclusive Abu Dhabi rally kit pack, including a uniquely-branded WRC jacket and rucksack.

To be in with a chance of winning this fantastic rally prize simply answer this question correctly:

Which WRC team does Abu Dhabi partner?
Is it:
a) Citroen
b) BP Ford
c) Subaru

For a chance to win send the answer to competitions@theportugalnews.com, quoting RALLY in the subject.

The deadline for this week's competition is Wednesday, May 19th at 6pm. The winners will be announced in next week's edition. Readers should provide a courier address to where their 'winnings' can be sent.



BP Ford Abu Dhabi World Rally Team driver Khaled Al Qassimi

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Chaos returns to national airports as ash descends over Portugal

Carrie-Marie Bratley

Scenes of despair returned to Portuguese airports this week as thousands of people were once again stranded due to a second batch of ash plumes spewed from the Icelandic volcano Eyjafjallajökull that caused unprecedented disruption to air travel last month.

Between April 14th and 21st chaos ruled air travel as hundreds of thousands of passengers were stranded around the globe when numerous European airports closed and hundreds of flights were grounded for days on end after the volcano's initial eruption in March.

Experts predicted the first ash cloud, which caused an unprecedented lock-down on UK airspace, could take weeks to clear properly.

Passengers and airlines around the world breathed a collective sigh of relief when the no-fly ban was officially lifted on April 21st, though not without the industry suffering losses in the region of €2.5 billion.

That relief was sort-lived when the volcano's activity intensified last Thursday, emitting a second plume of ash that has gradually descended over Portugal and its islands.

Last Friday the ash began wreaking havoc in Portuguese airports, subsequently causing the closure of some and the cancellation of many flights.

On Sunday, a total of 308 flights were cancelled to and from Portuguese Airports, including Madeira and the Azores, according to national airport management company ANA. Thousands of passengers had their flights disrupted in Oporto, which was the worst affected mainland airport that day with the bulk of the flights, 153 in total, being scrapped.

By 17h00 on Monday a further 320 flights had been cancelled. That day Lisbon suffered the brunt of the disruption, with 164 flights being called off.

Notwithstanding Lisbon being the worst affected airport, other airports were far from calm.

At Faro on Monday queues of people waiting for flight information extended nearly the entire



A handful of the hundreds of stranded passengers at Faro Airport on Monday, enjoying the sunshine and making the most of their impromptu extended stay. (Photo: The Portugal News s / Carrie-Marie Bratley)

length of the infrastructure. Others opted to bed down on the grass outside, making the most of the good weather.

Some passengers were making peace with the fact they could face spending days at the airport.

Twenty-four hours later, as the cloud moved south, the airports of Faro, the Azores and Madeira closed completely.

Speaking at Faro airport to **The Portugal News** on Monday, an irate London-bound passenger said "This is absolutely disgraceful. That plane is sitting at Stansted and its not costing

them [the airline] anything. It's just costing us. I'm self-employed and I'm losing a fortune".

Mrs. McKay, a pregnant northern-Irish passenger whose low-cost flight to Belfast had been cancelled told **The Portugal News** she was facing a five-day wait at the airport.

"The earliest flight back to Belfast is on Saturday and that's not good enough, for anybody to sit through this and have to worry about sleeping in an airport for five days..." she said, visibly upset.

Amongst Mrs. McKay's

group of eight people were three young children and a disabled person.

"Nobody is responsible for us", she continued, "The buck is being passed from one person to another. We want this sorted. How are these companies getting away with it?"

Angered by the lack of assistance from all parties, she added "The consulate said they could get us cheap accommodation, but we haven't got the money for it, so what are they going to do for us? I feel really let down by the airlines and the British and Irish

governments".

Sharing Mrs. McKay's frustration, along with hundreds of other passengers at the airport, was 23-year-old Sally, a holiday-maker from Newcastle, and her 26-year-old friend.

After arriving at the airport the duo found their flight to Newcastle had been cancelled. They paid €600 to rebook on a flight with another airline to Leeds, which was also later cancelled.

"We've been here since six this morning", Sally said, explaining they had "so far" waited in "huge queues" for four and a half hours

"and nobody is that helpful".

The girls said the earliest alternative flight available to them was two days later, on Wednesday.

"We've got no money. My Mum and Dad are in Malta, so they cannot put any money in my bank. I don't know what we're going to do".

"And my Mum and Dad have just paid the €600 for the flight that we can't get on", her travel companion said.

Faro airport was re-opened to air traffic later Tuesday night, at 22h00, with Madeira following at 01h00 on Wednesday morning.

Flights between the Azores and mainland Portugal returned to normal on Wednesday. Azorean airline SATA airline put on 62 extra flights over the following days to cater for passengers stranded at the various airports around the Azores archipelago and on the mainland, in the USA and Canada.

On Wednesday (May 12th) Irish low-cost airline Ryanair also introduced extra flights to and from Faro to allow stranded passengers to return to the UK and Ireland.

Flights FR7034/35 (Dublin-Faro/Faro-Dublin) and FR9222/93 (London Stansted-Faro/Faro-London Stansted) left Faro on Wednesday afternoon and evening, respectively, as air traffic gradually returned to normal.

Portuguese meteorologists predicted that mainland airspace would be completely clear of the ash by 13h00 Wednesday afternoon, when it would be blown south of the Algarve.

The ash was forecast to linger in the airspaces of the Azores and Madeira until the early hours of Thursday morning, after which they too were expected to be clear.

Portugal's Meteorological Institute (IM) further predicted that the ash cloud "would not re-enter" national airspace.

www.theportugalnews.com

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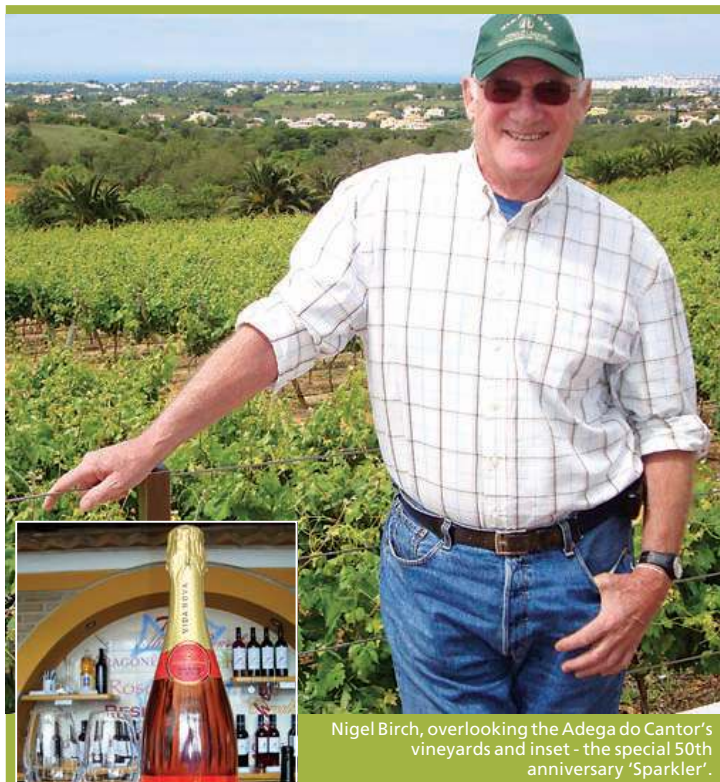
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Sir Cliff celebrates lifetime landmarks with a 'Sparkler'



Nigel Birch, overlooking the Adega do Cantor's vineyards and inset - the special 50th anniversary 'Sparkler'.

Carrie-Marie Bratley

After suffering a series of knock-backs that delayed its launch by nearly a year, Sir Cliff Richard's eagerly-anticipated celebratory Sparkling Wine, specially created to mark his 50th year in the music industry, is finally being distributed and, quite conveniently, in a year that also coincides with his 70th birthday.

Behind the scenes, the famous Vida Nova and Onda Nova wines are in fact produced by three independent farmers; Sir Cliff, long-term Algarve resident Nigel Birch, and his son Max. The grapes harvested from the three farms are heaped together at the trio's winery, Adega do Cantor, where they then "swap hats and become wine producers", Nigel explained to **The Portugal News** in an interview held earlier this week.

The partnership, "a sort of cooperative, if you like", was formed in the early 2000s.

Together the three have created a brand that is one of the most recognisable names in Algarvean wines.

Having known Sir Cliff for nearly 40 years Nigel is as enthusiastic about his partnership with his famous co-producer and long-time personal friend as he is about the wines themselves.

At the time of Adega do Cantor's forming, Sir Cliff had already enlisted the help of a renowned Australian wine-maker David Baverstock to help him produce wine from his own personal vineyard. It was suggested he joined forces with Nigel and Max to increase the amount of land as "Cliff didn't have enough to go it alone; it wouldn't have been viable".

"Cliff was way ahead of us by some four years", Nigel said, adding that the now-iconic name, Vida Nova, had also already been thought up by the singer.

"It means 'New Life' but it actually refers to the new vineyard on Sir Cliff's property as the old one was ripped out", Nigel explained, continuing, "Ironically a lot of people think it means a new life for the Algarve and in effect it was. In a way he [Cliff Richard] was responsible for a revival of Algarvean wine".

In 2003 the trio celebrated the winery's first batch of 'Vida Nova', starting their production at around 20,000 bottles of one single type of red wine.

Now, some 200,000 bottles of nine different varieties of wine (red, white, still rosé – and now the first Sparkling) are produced.

While the 'Vida Nova' range is a blend of different grape varieties, the new 'Onda Nova' range is single-varietal. A new Alicante Bouché variety is in the pipeline, which will be launched at the end of the year.

Without doubt the most important event is the launch of the commemorative Rosé Sparkling Wine, which in itself was a minor feat as the entire procedure has not been without problems.

Originally to have been launched in 2009, the celebratory wine was delayed by almost a year. It is believed to be only the second sparkling wine produced in the Algarve region, and the only one produced on a large scale.

"In 2008 we decided it would be appropriate and really nice to create something a bit special as

Cliff was celebrating 50 years in the music industry. So we decided to try and do a sparkling wine, which he adores", Nigel explained.

He describes the time from when they started picking grapes to having the wine ready for distribution in May this year, as "a battle, battle, battle".

Nigel elaborated, "The Algarve [in terms of wine production] is a controlled area and this was something quite new to the region. The problem was that, producing something new like this, no one really knew how to do it. I don't mean make it, but what goes on the labels, for example, what is legal and what is not".

"It's no good producing 10,000 bottles of wine, and the labels, and then finding out you can't sell it as one little phrase or dot is wrong".

"It has taken until now to get it up and running".

Further aggravation to the launch of the long-awaited celebratory 'Sparkler', "as Cliff calls it", was suffered when they were told the bottles must be kept in storage for at least nine months before being distributed. And more recently, distribution was delayed following the eruption of the Icelandic volcano that caused an unprecedented lock-down on EU airspace.

"It should have been launched on April 1st and we had loads of pre-orders but they could not be sent out as they were delayed by the ash cloud", Nigel explained.

Given the set-backs and an almost silent launch, a more glitzy official event could still be on the cards for later this year.

"It's incredibly exciting as it is something good for this province", Nigel enthused, adding

"It's something that's here, it's modern, and I think it is going to be an important little number in our stable".

Acclaimed by the International Wine Fair, which awarded Vida Nova a Silver Medal, Nigel is proud of the trio's achievements. He believes their wines are still as popular now as when they were introduced, though acknowledges that having a famous co-producer is not without advantages.

"We are in a fortunate position as we don't just have Portugal and the UK [to sell to] we have other countries where we sell very well because of the Sir Cliff Richard name.

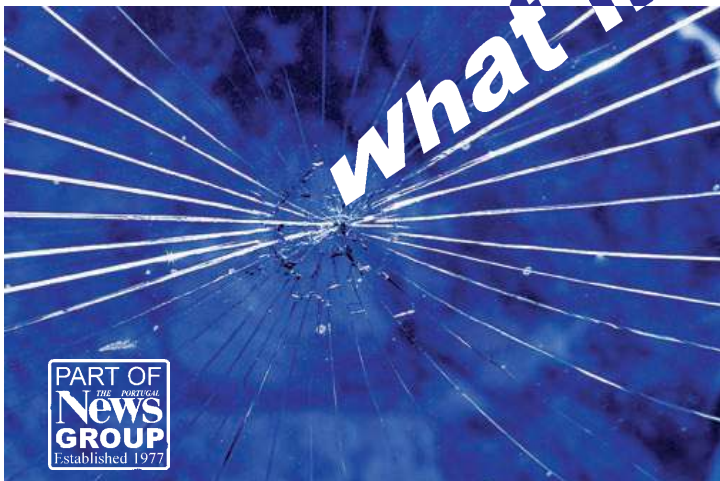
"Denmark has a very, big fanbase; they buy ten to twelve thousand bottles, a year. We sell well in Germany, again because of the name, and in Poland. We're just about to open something new in Spain and we're in negotiations with an American company, so yes, this is where we have an advantage. If it wasn't for the name we probably wouldn't sell anything in these countries", he reasoned, realistically adding "If it were just my son and I setting off on the wine trail they probably wouldn't let us through the door, and that's true".

Also available as of this month is the 2008 Vida Nova red which Nigel describes as "absolutely the best wine we have ever made – it is fabulous". So the future is looking Rosé for the Adega do Cantor.

Stocks of the special 50th anniversary 'Sparkler' are limited. Bottles can be ordered, purchased from the Winery's shop or from specialist outlets.

For more information, see www.winesvidanova.com.

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Pruned budget forces Navy out of NATO anti-piracy ops



The Portuguese Navy will cease participation in NATO's Indian Ocean anti-piracy operations due to Lisbon's austerity budget cuts, the office of the chief of staff said.

"Given budget restrictions, the Portuguese navy will not participate this year in NATO's permanent naval forces (SNMG1 - Standing NATO Maritime Group 1)", Navy spokesman Cmdr. João Barbosa told Lusa News Agency.

He said it would be "the first time in the last four decades" that Portugal would not be part of the force.

Portugal commanded NATO's anti-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia during 2009.

The office of the Armed Forces Chief of Staff declined to comment on the Navy's statement, saying it did not comment publicly on "budget issues".

Defence Minister Augusto Santos Silva announced last March that the Armed Forces' budget would be pruned by some 40 percent in 2010 without specifying what sectors would be affected.

The government is imple-

menting a tough belt-tightening programme to fight Lisbon's ballooning debt.

However, it seems that budget cuts will not be affecting Portugal's role in Afghanistan.

Portuguese forces serving with NATO in Afghanistan play a "relevant" role in alliance plans to transfer defence and security powers to Kabul, Lisbon's armed forces chief of staff said last week.

"Portugal has a relevant force already involved because we've been in the theatre for sometime with two instruction and training teams for Afghan units and, in principle, we'll re-enforce this commitment", Gen. Luís Valença Pinto told Lusa in Brussels.

Gen. Valença Pinto, who was attending a NATO military committee meeting, said the transfer of powers should begin at the end of the year, but was still under study and required subsequent "political approval".

TPN/Lusa



Defence Minister Augusto dos Santos Silva (centre) on his arrival to meet Angolan President, José Eduardo dos Santos at the presidential palace in Luanda on May 4th. (Photo: Lusa / Bruno Fonseca)

Lisbon says Obama's US policy changes 'deep' move in 'right direction'

Changes in US policy under the Obama administration have been "very deep and headed in the right direction", according to Portugal's defence minister.

President Barack Obama has brought a "reaffirmation of multilateralism" and commitment to international law that represents an "irreversible turn-

ing of a page" on the "sad experience and options" of his predecessor, George W. Bush, Augusto Santos Silva said.

"The effects of the Obama administration are powerful and an affirmation of the United States as a great democracy", the defence minister told Lusa News Agency on the sidelines of a con-

ference in Lisbon.

The international gathering was organised around the theme: "The Obama effect and the future of planetary democracy".

Santos Silva called special attention to Obama's change of policies in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The announced timetable for withdrawal of US and NATO

forces from both theatres, he said, had allowed an immediate bolstering of allied forces with the aim of readying local forces to assume increasing security responsibilities, avoiding the "eternalisation" of the conflicts.

He also praised Washington's linkage of support for Kabul to progress in good governance.

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Calls for increased protection of unaccompanied minors entering the EU

The aim of the plan is to create a common European approach to make sure that a decision on the future of each unaccompanied minor is taken by the competent authorities as soon as possible, preferably within six months.

As a priority, Member States should trace the families of the unaccompanied minors and carefully monitor their reintegration in their home society.

If it is in the best interest of the child, Member States should find alternative solutions including granting international protection status or resettlement in the EU.

It is not easy to have a clear view of the number of unaccompanied minors coming to Europe in the migration process, but the asylum applications lodged last year by children under the age of 18 unaccompanied by an adult can give an idea of the extent of the problem.

Data from Eurostat indicate that in 2009, 10,960 unaccompanied minors lodged applications for asylum in 22 Member States (excluding Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Poland and Romania), which represents an increase of 13 percent compared to 2008 when there were 9,695 asylum applications.

The reasons behind the arrival of unaccompanied minors varies.

Unaccompanied minors escape from wars and conflicts, poverty or natural catastrophes, discrimination or persecution.

The European Commission has this week adopted an action plan to increase the protection of unaccompanied minors entering the EU, encompassing common standards for guardianship and legal representation.



European home affairs Commissioner, Swedish Cecilia Malmström gives a news conference on human trafficking and child pornography at EU commission headquarters in Brussels on March 29th. (Photo: EPA/Olivier Hoslet)

They are sent by their families in the expectation of a better life, of being able to support their families back home, or in an attempt to join other family members already in the EU. Some are victims of human trafficking.

The action plan proposes an EU approach based on three main strands for action: prevention of unsafe migration and trafficking, reception and procedural guarantees in the EU and identification of durable solutions.

"Europe must take immediate action to look after unaccompanied minors, who are the most exposed and vulnerable victims of migration", said Cecilia Malmström, EU Commissioner for Home Affairs.

"This Action Plan aims at setting up a common and coordi-

nated approach to meet a challenge that is to increase over the coming years. It is paramount that all Member States commit to grant high standards of reception, protection and integration for unaccompanied minors. The principle of the best interest of the child should always form the basis for any action taken. We must focus on tracing the families of minors entering the EU territory alone and we must grant return conditions allowing them reunification with their relatives".

Former police chief shot down in Laranjeiro

A former PSP Deputy Chief was shot down by a Police Special Task Force last weekend after firing shots at PSP officers and later barricading himself in his own apartment.

Only two officers were on duty at Laranjeiro's PSP station, in Almada, when a robbery to a residency was reported. They both headed to D. Francisco de Melo e Noronha Street and were surprised by a man pointing a gun at them whilst still in the patrol car.

The man fired one shot at the vehicle, the bullet shattering through the car's rear window and lodging in the headrest. The crazed man then ran to his house and barricaded himself inside, firing several more shots in the officers' direction to stand his ground. One of the bullets struck an officer in the chest but did not prove to be fatal as it pierced a rubbish bin beforehand, losing its intensity. The only two officers on duty were forced to call for backup from nearby PSP stations, namely Seixal and Setúbal, as all other security forces were busy carrying out operations elsewhere.

Despite being surrounded and without any chance of escaping, the 52 year old man, a former PSP

Deputy Chief who was let go due to psychological problems fifteen years ago, continued to fire shots at the officers, refusing to hand himself in.

With the situation getting increasingly dangerous, a Special Task Force was sent to the location to negotiate with the man. After being shot at several times, they were forced to return fire and eventually killed the barricaded individual. Several guns were found in the criminal's home, namely a 7.65mm weapon, which only security forces officers are licensed to use.

Although the Minister for Internal Affairs Rui Pereira said the incident was resolved with competence by PSP officers, the Chairman of the National Police Union said it is "inadmissible" there were only two officers on duty in a police station that serves a population as large as Laranjeiro's. "This incident just proves the lack of officers" said Armando Ferreira.

Trio rape house-sitter in another Loulé break-in

Three hooded assailants broke into a British couple's home in the São Lourenço area of Almancil (Loulé) last Saturday night and reportedly raped a woman who was looking after the property at the time.

A GNR source told Lusa News Agency that after the trio had broken into the property they threatened the house-sitter with a weapon described as 'not a firearm', and supposedly raped her.

The PJ police confirmed that they are investigating the case, but added "at this phase in the investigation no more can be revealed".

Other local residents told Lusa that they were worried about the rise in violent crime that has been particularly noticeable in that area.

Portuguese newspaper *Jornal de Notícias* (JN) described the victim as a 34-year-old British woman. The report said the woman had been looking after the house while the owners were away and that at around 21h00 that night she had

heard "strange noises". After opening the door to investigate she was taken by surprise by three masked men.

The assailants are believed to have stolen various pieces of electronic equipment, bank cards, and money. One of them raped the victim.

Since last November four violent robberies have been carried out on isolated properties in the Loulé region. Most of the victims are over the age of 50, foreign residents, and show some signs of wealth, the GNR said.

So far the victims have been British, German and Swiss.

Nevertheless, in the Sobradinho area, where most violent crimes were reported, there are also residents who are Danish, Finnish and Dutch.

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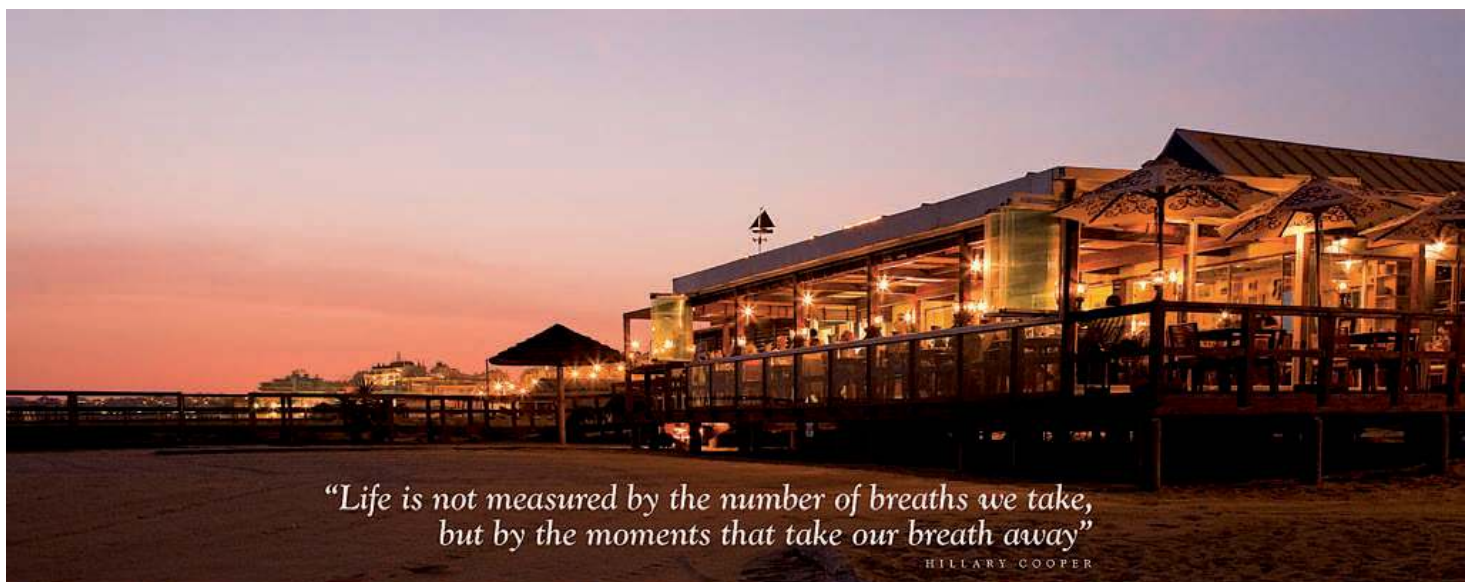


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Portuguese Foreign Minister Luis Amado, welcomes Senegal's counterpart, Madicke Niang, prior a meeting at Necessidades palace in Lisbon on May 6th. (Photo: Lusa / João Relvas)

Lisbon, Dakar aim at stronger business relations

Portugal and Senegal have agreed to set up a mixed commission and organise a bilateral business forum to meet in Dakar with the aim of boosting trade and investment ties.

The initiative, for which a date

has yet to be set, was announced last Thursday after talks in Lisbon between the two countries' foreign ministers.

Luis Amado said Portuguese companies already operating in Senegal and other interested in

entering the West African market would participate.

Dakar's Madicke Niang the forum would involve both entrepreneurs from both Senegal and neighbouring countries.

TPN/Lusa

PT rejects Telefonica bid for its share of Brazil's Vivo

Portugal Telecom CEO Zeinal Bava this week justified his company's rejection of Spanish Telefonica's bid to buy the Portuguese share of Brazilian cell phone operator Vivo, saying such a deal would have "amputated" PT's future.

"Divesting in Brazil through the sale of Vivo would have sig-

nified amputating the future of PT, seeing that scale and growth are critical factors in the telecommunications sector", Bava told Lusa News Agency.

PT announced Monday night it had turned down an unsolicited €5.7 billion offer from Telefonica to buy PT's 50 percent share of the Brazilian company. The

Spaniards hold the other 50 percent. Bava said PT was "totally committed" to a strategy of growth.

"We will not ask for pardon from anyone for wanting to be leaders and masters of our future", he said, adding that PT aimed to become a "truly multinational" company. TPN/Lusa

"Who will pay my Old Age Pension?" SOCIAL SECURITY PENSIONS IN THE EU

Part n° 2 - Comprehensive Rules

When examining the application of Social Security Pensions in different countries around the European Union, the following important rules will apply:

Aggregation

If you didn't work long enough to qualify for a pension in a country where you worked, you will receive credit for these periods in other countries where you worked and contributed. For example, you moved to Portugal after a long career in the UK. Having worked here for 6 months, you decide to retire. While these contributions will not be sufficient for a Portuguese Social Security pension, they will count towards your Old Age Pension in the UK.

Residence or Stay Abroad

Your old age pension will be paid to you regardless of where you stay or reside within the European Union or the European Economic Area without any reduction, modification or suspension. This applies to former workers as well as to all pensioners residing in another State.

Non-Contributory Pensions

This principle does not apply to certain special benefits which are not based on contributions. In most cases, they are means-tested (i.e. paid to persons whose pensions are below a certain level). These benefits are paid to you as long as you reside in the State concerned. For example, guaranteed income for the elderly

In this 3-part series on Social Security Pensions in the EU, we will explore:

1. General Principles
2. Comprehensive Rules
3. Practical Problems

in Belgium, the supplementary allowance from the National Solidarity Fund in France, and non-contributory old age pensions in Ireland and Portugal. In other words, payment of these benefits will be suspended if you transfer your residence to another State, which will then grant you the corresponding benefit, even if you have never worked there.

For example, you live in Portugal, where you receive a non-contributory old-age pension. At the age of 65, you decide to move to France. What happens? Portugal will suspend payment of your non-contributory old age pension, but France must grant you the supplementary allowance from the National Solidarity Fund.

You Have Been Insured in One Single Country

In this case, the amount of your pension will be calculated in accordance with the legislation of that country in exactly the same way as for its own nationals. It does not matter whether or not you reside in that country when you reach pensionable age.

You Have Been Insured in More Than One Country

You will get a pension from every State where you were insured for at least one year. These pensions

will correspond to the insurance periods completed in each of the States concerned.

For example, you were insured for 10 years in Austria, for 25 years in Belgium, and for 5 years in Member State Portugal. This means that you were insured for 40 years in total before you reached pensionable age. Austria will calculate the amount of pension you would be entitled to after 40 years of insurance in that State. It will then pay you the amount corresponding to your actual periods of insurance, i.e. 10/40 (or 1/4) of this amount. Similarly, Belgium will pay you 25/40 (or 5/8) of the amount you would have been entitled to in that State after 40 years of insurance. Finally, Portugal will pay you 5/40 (or 1/8) of the amount you would have been entitled to in that State after 40 years of insurance.

Next - Part n° 3: Practical Problems

Dennis Swing Greene is Chairman and International Fiscal Consultant for euroFINESCO s.a., with headquarters in Guia (Albufeira) and satellite offices in Lisbon (Chiado) and Funchal (Sé), Madeira as well as on the Internet at www.eurofinesco.com. Please address any queries to swing.greene@getreal.com.

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Galp Energia tops 20,000 bpd production for first time

Galp Energia has crossed the "magic barrier" of 20,000 barrels of daily oil production for the first time, the Portuguese company's president said.

"On crossing this magic barrier (last Wednesday), the day will remain in Galp Energia's small history", Manuel Ferreira de Oliveira said, adding that the pro-

duction record had been helped by "strong contributions" from the company's participation in Brazil's Tupi field and Tombua-Landana in Angola.

Ferreira de Oliveira said Galp's Q1 profit had increased 32 percent over the year early period to €65 million.

TPN/Lusa

US harder hit by unemployment than EU, study finds

The unemployment rate in the European Union has grown since the first quarter of 2008 as a result of the economic crisis.

However, the increase has been smaller than in the US, where the rate has overtaken the EU despite having been much lower at the start of the crisis.

On a more detailed level, similar patterns in the evolution of unemployment by gender and educational level during the crisis can be observed in the EU and the US. Long term unemployment is higher in the EU, but rising fast in the US.

In the first quarter of 2010, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the EU was 9.6 percent, just below the rate in the US

which stood at 9.7 percent.

US unemployment before the crisis was at its lowest level in the second quarter of 2007 at 4.5 percent and peaked in the fourth quarter of 2009 at 10.0 percent.

In the EU, unemployment started to rise in the first quarter of 2008, when it stood at 6.7 percent. Since then, the unemployment rate has increased to reach 9.6 percent in the first quarter of 2010. While the rate continued to rise in the EU in the first quarter of 2010, it decreased in the US.

This data comes from a publication issued by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, on the impact of the economic crisis on EU and US unemployment.



The Galp refinery in Sines on April 3rd. (Photo: Lusa / Manuel Aguiar)

Portugal in court over working conditions for rail workers

The European Commission this week referred Portugal to the EU's Court of Justice for failing to communicate its national measures for transposing legislation on working conditions in the international rail sector.

National measures must cover

minimum standards in working conditions, driving times, breaks and daily and weekly rest periods.

The EU rules on working conditions for mobile workers in international rail transport trans-

late an agreement between European trade unions and employers.

They aim to ensure satisfactory conditions for those working in cross-border rail services.

Legislation on the conditions for rail workers should have been transposed by the Member States by 27 July 2008 at the latest, following consultation of the social partners.



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EC proposes to open the aviation market with Brazil



The European Commission has proposed to open negotiations on a comprehensive aviation agreement with Brazil, which is by far the largest air transport market in South America.

According to an economic impact assessment study, an agreement with Brazil could generate up to €460 million in consumer benefits a year. The potential for traffic growth is estimated at 335,000 additional passengers in the first year.

Vice-President Siim Kallas, in charge of transport, said: "Brazil is a strategic partner of the

European Union. I will recommend to EU transport ministers to open negotiations with Brazil as soon as possible aiming at market opening and high regulatory standards. I am convinced that this would create new opportunities for our industry. Passengers would benefit from greater choice and a high level of safety and security. It would promote trade and tourism between the EU and Brazil."

Negotiations would aim at opening market access for airlines and achieving a high level of regulatory convergence. A market opening for air services between the EU and Brazil would create significant benefits for passengers and for the air transport industry. More than four million passengers per year are carried on flights between the EU and Brazil.

Earlier this year, the Brazilian government expressed strong interest in air transport negotiations with the EU in order to remove barriers for air traffic growth. The timing is of particular relevance when considering the FIFA World Cup in 2014 and the Olympic Games in 2016. European airports also explicitly asked the EU institutions to open in 2010 air transport negotiations with Brazil and other strategic markets in order to facilitate the industry's recovery after the crisis. The Commission needs au-

thorisation from EU transport ministers before opening such negotiations.

In recent years Brazil has developed excellent cooperation with the EU on aviation issues. An agreement negotiated with Brazil in 2009 ensures non-discriminatory treatment for all EU airlines. Negotiations on an aviation safety agreement between the EU and Brazil have been finalised on the technical level. Brazil is organising jointly with the European Commission the EU-Latin America civil aviation summit in Rio de Janeiro on 25 and 26 May 2010, bringing together aviation leaders from Europe and Latin America.

The EU already has air transport agreements in effect with the United States, Canada, Morocco and the Western Balkan countries. In recent weeks, the Commission has successfully finalised air transport negotiations with Jordan, Georgia and a second-stage agreement with the United States.

Photo above left: European Commissioner for Transport, Estonian Siim Kallas gives a news conference on the economic impact of the volcanic ash cloud on the air transport industry, at the European Commission headquarters in Brussels on April 27th (Photo: EPA/Olivier Hoslet)

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Harmonised EU rules to foster high-speed wireless internet services

The European Commission has adopted a Decision establishing harmonised technical rules for Member States on the allocation of radio frequencies in the 800 MHz band that contribute to the deployment of high-speed wireless internet services by avoiding harmful interference.

In several Member States the 800 MHz frequencies are being freed up as part of the so-called "digital dividend" resulting from the switchover from analogue to digital television broadcasting.

If Member States decide to change the existing frequency allocation (for broadcasting) they must immediately apply the harmonised technical rules laid down by the Decision to make these frequencies available to wireless broadband applications.

The decision does not itself require Member States to make available the 790-862 MHz band for electronic communication services. However, the Commission is considering

such a proposal in the forthcoming Radio Spectrum Policy Programme, which will take account of a recent consultation on the subject and the 22-23 March Spectrum Summit organised by the Commission and the European Parliament.

Digital Agenda Commissioner Neelie Kroes said: "This Decision paves the way for implementation of innovative broadband technologies and for the fast growing demand for wireless services to be met. I encourage Member States to take the necessary steps to implement the Decision, so that European businesses and citizens can take full advantage of the benefits of the switchover to digital TV."

Portimonense joins top flight football

Tommy Broad

Portimonense football club has joined the Liga Sagres after beating Oliveirense 1-0 last Saturday, being promoted together with Beira-Mar to take Belenenses' and Rio Ave's places in first league football.

It was all good news for Algarvean football teams this season as Olhanense managed to maintain their place in the Liga Sagres in their debut year and will now be joined by Portimonense, after a twenty year absence from top flight football.

Wilson Eduardo gave the Algarvean team the much needed victory over their close rivals Oliveirense and paved the way for Portimonense to join the country's best teams next season.

On the team's return to the Algarve, at around 3am, the players were received by practically the entire city of Portimão at the Town Hall Square, as well as the Mayor, who congratulated the team for their fantastic achievement.

One problem has come up with Portimonense's promotion as the stadium they currently play in does not have the requisites to host first league football matches, and also it is set to be demolished in the near future. Luis Carito, Portimão's Deputy Mayor, has said that the Restinga Stadium, in Alvor, will be adapted to host big matches, increasing its capacity with removable seating. Whilst the changes in this stadium are not completed, there are two possible options

being contemplated: Luis Carito has suggested the matches are held in the Bela Vista Stadium, in Parchal, but Fernando Rocha, Portimonense's Chairman, wants his team to play their first match in their own stadium, the Portimão Municipal Stadium. "The Liga made, a couple of weeks ago and at our request, an inspection to see what construction needs to be carried out at the stadium so it can host Liga matches and we are now working to comply with these recommendations, spending the least amount possible" said the Chairman, who wants to use temporary structures at the soon-to-be demolished stadium that can be transferred to the Restinga stadium at a later date.

These are only temporary measures until the future Portimão Sport Complex is built, with the football stadium expected to be ready by 2012, same year when the Municipal Stadium will be demolished.

The Lena Group, company in charge of the construction of the Sport Complex, has carried out practically no work on the site since the first brick was laid by the Mayor last year, but has guaranteed that construction will begin this year.



Portimonense players celebrate their promotion to the first division, after a game of honour when they beat Oliveirense 0-1 at the Carlos Osório Stadium in Oliveira de Azeméis on May 8th. (Photo: Lusa / Estela Silva)

Hameli wins Portimão F1 PowerBoat race

The United Arab Emirates pilot, Ahmad Al Hameli (Abu Dhabi), won the opening round of the F1 Powerboat racing season, in Portimão, last weekend. The only Portuguese pilot competing in the elite powerboat racing category, Duarte Benavente (F1 Atlantic), abandoned due to mechanical problems.

Despite starting from third in the grid and with great chances of winning the event, Duarte Benavente only managed to complete seven of the 42 laps of the Portimão circuit, being forced to abandon after a mechanical failure. "We thought it was the trim pump, but it was a piece of the exhaust, that is broken inside it" said the Portuguese pilot, clearly disappointed with the result. "Unfortunately, today the podium was within our reach but it escaped."

Ahmad Al Hameli (Abu Dhabi) took the lead from

Francesco Cantando (Singha F1) on the seventh lap and completed the 45 minute race with 42 laps. It was the pilot's second consecutive win in Portugal, having won the event in 2009 as well. Cantando was 18.78 seconds behind Al Hameli, with Thani Al Qamzi (Abu Dhabi) taking the last place of the podium 21.97 seconds behind his teammate.

The next F1 PowerBoat race will be held in Russia on July 10th and 11th.

EU asks Portugal to aid political preps for Europe-Africa summit



Portugal will play an active role in "creating the political conditions" for the third Europe-Africa summit slated for Libya next November, according to a senior Lisbon official.

João Gomes Cravinho, the state secretary for foreign affairs and cooperation, told Lusa News Agency in Brussels this week that the European Commission had asked Lisbon to engage in political preparations for the apex meeting, given its experience and good relations with many African nations.

Portugal was a prime mover behind the first Europe-Africa summit in Cairo in 2000 and hosted the second edition in Lisbon in 2007, when it held the rotating EU presidency.

Gomes Cravinho held talks in Brussels with Development Commissioner Andris Piebalgs on Tuesday.

"We will work closely with the European Commission and with Belgium", which will hold the EU helm during the second semester of this year, Gomes Cravinho said.

He noted that the current political crisis in Belgium that will oblige early elections in June complicated summit countdown preparations.

TPN/Lusa

March occupancy rates up as revenue falls

In March this year the number of people spending a night in a hotel in Portugal rose, but, contrarily, revenue fell, according to the National Statistics Institute (INE).

The number of people spending a night in a hotel in Portugal during the month of March this year rose by 2.7 percent in comparison to March of the year before, to a total of 2.5 million residents-overs, made up by both residents and non-residents.

Portuguese citizens staying in a hotel in March grew by 4.4 percent in comparison to last year's respective figures, and with non-residents making up

1.9 percent.

The sector's takings in March totalled €114.9 million euros, with room rates raking in €74.2 million. However, both figures suffered losses in comparison to the previous March, of three and three point nine percent respectively.

Overall, the number of nights spent in a hotel in Portugal during the first three months of this year reached 6.1 million, an increase of 1.1 percent in comparison to the same period in 2009.

Spaniards spending a night in Portugal rose by 30 percent, while the length of time spent in Portugal by tourists from Germany and Holland fell.

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Record number of Portugal's beaches awarded 'Blue Flag'

In his opinion, this recorded number of prized beaches is a reflection of the concern shown by all Portuguese in preserving their coastline.

"There is concern shown by all entities in the investment they make and in the infrastructures they place on beaches, by concessionaries and the way they manage the beaches, and by people in the way they use the beaches", he stressed.

Being awarded a Blue Flag is also a "programme of environmental education", Mr. Archer highlighted, adding that "after 20 years the most adequate behaviour [in preserving beaches] is intricately in each and every person".

Despite claiming that improvements are still possible, José Archer said that the number of beaches that were awarded this year is "very satisfactory".

"More than 50 percent of Portugal's beaches have a Blue Flag, which is a very good percentage. It is by far, of all Southern European countries, the one with the highest percentage of flagged beaches", he continued, describing it as "the result of good work".

This year the northern region will hoist 56 Blue Flags on their beaches, 13 more than in 2009. This is thanks to the approval of seven new beaches (Silvade, Fraga da Pegada, Angeiras Norte, Pedras Brancas, Azul, Leça da Palmeira and Gondarém).

Nineteen beaches throughout central Portugal will be flying a symbolic Blue Flag, one more than in 2009, due to the re-en-

trance of the Esmoriz beach. It was in the Tagus region that the biggest loss of Blue Flags was registered, with 11 fewer flags being attributed than last year. This was largely because three key municipalities, Sintra, Cascais and Figueiró dos Vinhos, refused to be candidates as a form of protest against an alleged 'lack of investment' in the region's coastline, as well as the rules and regulations of the candidacy process.

trance of the Esmoriz beach.

In the Alentejo 23 beaches were presented with flags, two more than last year, though it is the Algarve that boasts the greatest number of awards, with 69 beaches having been attributed an award (15 more than in 2009).

Three new Algarvean beaches have been bestowed the honour of flying a Blue Flag this year, (Galé Oeste, Arrifes and Batata), while two lost their flag (Pego Fundo and Faro Ria).

Despite the chaos caused by the devastating floods, Madeira only lost five flags from its beaches and one from a Marina, being awarded 16 in total.

The Azores was the only region to maintain the exact same number of prized beaches, with 28 Blue Flags flying loud and proud.

Fourteen Portuguese marinas will fly a Blue Flag, one less than last year, eight of which are on mainland Portugal (Porto de Recreio de Oeiras and Lisbon's Park of Nations, Tróia and Porto de Recreio, Sines [Alentejo] and four in the Algarve).

Five marinas in the Azores and one in Madeira also have the symbolic award.



The Oporto coastline was awarded a blue flag for the first time this year at Homem do Leme beach seen here in June 2008. (Photo: Lusa /João Abreu Miranda)

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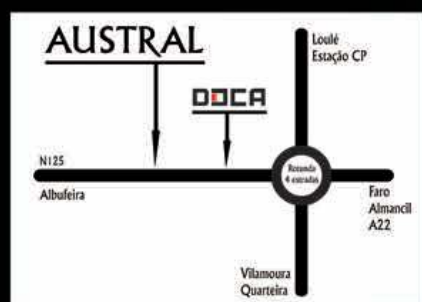
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Sintra and Cascais refuse to run for beach Blue Flag



Sintra and Cascais' respective town halls have refused to participate in the running for a Blue Flag award for their beaches, an acknowledgement of the beaches' quality, as a form of protest against the award as well as against the 'lack of investment' being made in the coastline.

The European Blue Flag Association last week announced that 240 Portuguese beaches had been contemplated and granted an award, 14 more than last year.

There will be 11 fewer beaches in the Tejo region flying a flag this year though, due to the counties of Sintra and Cascais pulling out of the running.

Sintra second-in-command, Vice-Mayor Marco Almeida, vowed that as long as "central administration" does not "make investments in the Sintra coastline", the municipality would not put any of its beaches forward for a Blue Flag award.

"As long as the ARH [Regional Hydrographic Administration] does not invest in our coastline, the town hall will not submit candidates for a Blue Flag", he said.

"We are worried about situations with cliff faces in Azenhas do Mar and we are still awaiting investments from central administration in that context".

In the past the country has refrained from hoisting the flags on three beaches as a means of protesting the loss of the status on two other beaches in the region, accusing the ARH of not complying with commitments it had made and a "lack of loyalty" to the municipality.

Cascais also refrained from running for a Blue Flag this year as means of "protest in relation to the regulations and management of

the candidacy procedure".

Despite this, municipal executives say that "throughout the year" they have taken the greatest care in cleaning and disinfecting their beaches "without any support from the competent entities" and guarantee that even without the Blue Flag the beaches still "offer an enviable and consistent quality" which will be maintained throughout summer.



Despite the heavy rain, around one hundred people marched through the centre of Lisbon for the 2010 Lisbon Marijuana Global March, on May 8. Amongst their requests are respect for the freedom of people and also the creation of a regulated market. (Photo: Inácio Rosa/LUSA)

Where's my car? New SMS service announced

People in Lisbon can now find out exactly where their car has been towed to by simply sending a text message, if it has actually been towed by Police.

If a driver notices his car is not where it was last parked, he can send a free SMS message to 3838 saying "Reboque[space]car registration". A reply informing the person where the vehicle is impounded will be sent, if it has been towed by the PSP, Municipal Police or by Lisbon's Public Municipal Parking Company (EMEL). It is also very helpful in case of theft, with car owners knowing practically instantly if the car is in the Police's possession or not.

The cooperation protocol between Municipal Police, PSP, EMEL, the Modernization Agency and Information and Security Technologies Unit (UTIS) was signed on Monday morning at EMEL's park, in Sete Rios, Lisbon.

"When an officer sees a badly parked vehicle he will tow it, register the park it is heading to and its registration. As the license plate is registered, the system will consult the database of stolen cars on a national level, as well as in the

Schengen countries" said Carlos Gonçalves, from UTIS. "It is a service that allows us to know very quickly if our vehicle was stolen, so it can be reported to authorities with speed" said Rui Pereira, Minister for Internal Affairs, adding "It is a service that allows police to simplify its procedures."

Lisbon is the first city to test this new system, but it is hoped it will be employed nationally in all cities with more than one impound centre.

New International School to open in Oeiras

Oeiras International School (OIS) will open on September 6 in Oeiras. The school will hold a launch event at the Hotel Palácio, Estoril on May 18 at 8pm. All are welcome. RSVP's to info@oeirasinternational.school.com.

The school will open on September 6, thanks to the hard work of a unique team of parents, students and teachers, friends and committed supporters. The invaluable support of the Oeiras Town Council (owners of Quinta de Nossa Senhora da Conceição), and their belief that the time had come for the Oeiras region to have its own premier international school, has helped materialize the project.

The school is planning to become an International Baccalaureate (IB) School, beginning with students from Years 7 to 12; Year 13 will start the following school year. OIS intends to grow fast,

making the best use of the beautiful facilities and extending its offer to the younger years, beginning at the age of 3. Teaching will be in English.

Building their identity, the school chose to join the school motto - "SAPERE AUDE - dare to learn", with the Bugio Island, situated where the Tagus River meets the Atlantic Ocean. The resulting logo is meant to be a permanent landmark, inviting students to the challenges of learning. The school's Principal, Dra. Chari Empis, says, "OIS is committed to promoting quality education and values in a changing world, encouraging students to become responsible for their own learning. We will focus on intellectual rigour, helping all students to achieve their full potential." Registrations for the 2010-2011 school year are now open. Visit the school on www.oeirasinternationalschool.com

And the Band Played On

If Nero fiddled while Rome burned, the Portuguese are not far behind. In the USA, where I spent the past two weeks, CNN blared the news about Greece and continually asked "Who's next?" I covered as commentators talked about Portugal, "a tiny country that can't handle its debt." Other journalists lumped Portugal with Spain. (Many Americans don't know that Portugal is a separate country.) The two, broadcasters said, had soaring unemployment rates, sprawling social benefit programs and citizens who live on credit rather than on earnings. The New York Times called Portugal, Spain and Italy, "The Club Med Countries," unable to sustain themselves except as vacation destinations where people can no longer afford to visit or live. With all the terrifying talk about Portugal, I wondered if my TAP plane would even be at the Newark Airport on the day I was to fly home. (It was.) "What if your country goes away?" my best friend asked. "No way," I said. But secretly I feared for the fate of tiny Portugal.

Until I got home. Talk about time warps: Portugal seems as

prosperous as ever. The restaurants in our town, admittedly one of the most prosperous in the country, are full. A friend told me he arrived at an Alcaideche restaurant this past weekend only to be told, "If you don't have a reservation, we can't seat you. We're fully booked."

On a fact-finding mission I went to CascaisShopping this past weekend. FNAC had so many customers in the checkout line that I thought they were having a huge sale. "No, my Portuguese friend said, 'It's the beginning of the month, the Portuguese have money now, and they spend it.'" Kiosks peddling credit cards litter the aisles of the centre. Credit cards suffice for cash. When I spied on the counter at FNAC, 90% of the clients paid with their cards.

The only indications I see of the crisis coming here are in the numerous real estate signs indicating businesses, apartments and houses for sale or rent. For an experiment Don and I looked at an apartment for rent in a nearby building. The location was superb: looking out on a tranquil park. But the apartment dated from 1986 with clear signs of aging. The kitchen, Don's favourite room, was as small as a

closet. The apartment had what the agent called a "maid's room", surely a throwback from the old Portugal. When Don suggested that the owner enlarge the kitchen using this room, the agent said: "No way" and held to the €2,000 monthly rent. When we told the agent showing us the property that we thought it was way overpriced she was unconcerned. "No problem she said, 'I have two families coming to see it this weekend.'" Six weeks later the apartment is still empty.

Prosperity reigns in Portuguese football. Benfica won this week, and my God son told me that all 65,000 seats were sold. Even with the modest cost of seats, surely there could be a better use of the money. (My God daughter wisely said, "The money they spend for seats could pay the electric bill for a month.")

Channel surfing the Portuguese news stations was enlightening too. SIC Notícias talks about the Pope's visit, the erratic weather, strikes in Greece and terrorist attempts in the USA, but rarely about Portugal's problems. I can only conclude that Portugal has always managed to survive and will again this time. But it sure



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would feel comforting to read about the country in the travel rather than in the finance sections of the international newspapers.

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Lagoa school looks to build bridges



Students demonstrating their Biology Workshop at ESPAMOL's Open Day, which was held to attract prospective students to the Lagoa High School. (Photo: ESPAMOL)

Tommy Broad

Students from several senior schools from the Council were shown around the grounds by current students of the High School and given demonstrations of several different workshops, which covered a multitude of areas in which students can further their schooling qualifications, such as IT, Biology, Chemistry, Music, Gardening, Sales, Arts, Nursery Teaching Assistant,

The Padre António Martins de Oliveira High-School (ESPAMOL) held an open day on April 29th in order to attract prospective students to the Lagoa public school to further their schooling qualifications.

Cosmetics and many others.

ESPAMOL offers its students several possibilities to finalise their academic studies, such as CEF degrees, professional courses or the standard secundário schooling.

According to Júlia Ferreira, one of the teachers and organisers of the open day at ESPAMOL, "People seem to think that Lagoa is not a good place for students to go to high school, choosing to go to Silves or Portimão instead. We are holding this open day to prove them otherwise and entice them to come here." ESPAMOL teachers use innovative teaching techniques to keep their students up to date and intrigued by their studies, such as communicating on online forums to hand in projects or assign work, using interactive forums and keeping the stu-

dents' minds active with challenging lessons.

Hundreds of potential students were keen to be shown around the school's premises, with live music from the Music course students keeping spirits high.

Gail Holman, a retired teacher from the United States and now a volunteer at ESPAMOL, has become quite a sensation at the school, providing encouragement and motivation to students confused on where to take their studies: "I used to teach in America and, given my background in schooling, I like to give some sort of direction to teenagers" she said, adding that ESPAMOL focuses a lot on providing students with an interesting education "If you have something challenging to teach them, they will be interested."

Cash machine ripped out from Albufeira petrol station

An ATM (automatic cash dispensing) machine was ripped out of a Galp petrol station in Albufeira on Friday last week after the robbers used a mini-digger to rip it out with.

A source from the GNR confirmed that the incident occurred in Vale de Azinheira, Olhos d'Água, at around 05h00 Friday morning. The number of assailants involved in the swoop is unknown, the source added, saying that after the ATM machine was ripped out it was carried off in an open-back goods van.

Tavira toddlers take off



On May 25th a group of 25 children aged three and four from the Tavira Red Cross's 'Sala Azul' Infant Centre will board a Ryanair flight from Faro to Oporto, to make their first ever airplane journey.

Accompanied by their parents and guardians, the children will experience flight for the first time and will even have their lunches on board the aircraft.

The outing is considered by all involved to be the most exciting school trip of the year.

One of the children's fathers, Sr. Hugo Lopes, came up with the idea as the children are currently studying modes of transport. As Mr. Lopes himself is a widely travelled individual who believes flying on an airplane is the safest and most exciting mode of transport, and with Ryanair offering the lowest prices on the market as well as a direct domestic route between Faro and Oporto, it was decided the children should take a day-trip to the northern city via air.

The group will depart from Faro at 12h50, have lunch on-board the aircraft during the one-hour flight, and then spend the rest of the day on a cultural sightseeing tour in Oporto, until their return flight at 22h50 that night.

In related news, this week Irish low-cost airline Ryanair gave away 100 free return flights between Oporto and the Algarve, especially for hard-working university students.

Ryanair spokesperson Joana Henriques said "We believe that the university students of Oporto are entitled to a well-deserved holiday in the Algarve, so we are offering 100 return trips to the Algarve, completely free of charge."

To win the tickets students were asked to show up at Oporto's Belas Artes University on Monday (May 10th) and at the traditional *Enterro da Gata* event, at the RUM stand (on Tuesday, May 11th).

Free entry tickets to Portugal's largest Gay festival (ALLOVE), which is taking place this weekend at the Fátacil fairgrounds in Lagoa (Algarve), were also included as part of the student's package.

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Hours of fun and enthralling entertainment squeezed into one weekend



Organisers of the International Algarve Fair understand that entertainment is central to visitors thoroughly enjoying the overall experience, and as much as the many stands and eateries may be a joy to amble round and explore, it has been proven that entertainment really makes the day an outstanding one.

On both Saturday and Sunday a full day's worth of entertainment will be put on, non-stop from morning till night, for all ages. All main entertainment will be held in the arena, on the main stage.

And back again this year is the very popular Carnival-esque parade, featuring colourful characters and the Fair's catchy anthem. Children of all ages are invited to dress up and join in with the fun! Saturday's entertainment line-up will kick off at 11h30 with an opportunity to get up close and personal with beautiful owls, courtesy of the donkey sanctuary, which will be repeated at 15h15. Throughout the day there will also be plenty of opportunities to take photographs with the owls at the Donkey Sanctuary stand, for a small fee.

At 12h00 watch out for the Parade which will be partying its way around the fairgrounds, followed by a Magic Show with Paul Philippart at 12h30. At 13h15 there will be a dance demonstration by Ellen's Dance Girls followed by a Fashion Show by Collections, at 13h45, where all

the latest trends will sashay down the catwalk. At 14h15 Andy Mac, a talented Solo Saxophonist, will take to the stage. Gwen Franco's Ballet School will be putting on a performance at 15h45, after which will be a Children's Fashion Show by Kids on Safari, at 16h15.

At 16h45 Circo Pequeno will be doing a Juggling Show and Workshop, followed up by the mesmerizing Parade. At 18h30 Paul Philippart's Magic Prediction will be revealed to all, and at 19h00 the day's Grand Draw will be held.

And as if that wasn't enough, Kat Blu, a female vocalist from America, will sing the night away until at least 22h00. Sunday will be just as fun-packed, again starting the entertainment with the owls, at 11h30, before the fabulous Parade at 12h00.

A Magic Show with Paul Philippart will take centre stage at 12h30, after which, at 13h15, there will be a dance demonstration by Stars.

At 13h45 a Portuguese folk dance troupe, the Rancho

Folclórico do Calvário, will put on an energy-packed traditional Portuguese dance display.

Trakinolas Children's Dance Lesson will be held at 14h15, and is free for all to join in, followed by another opportunity to get close and personal with owls.

Sander Dance will be starring at 15h45, followed by another Fashion Show by Collections, at 16h15.

Half an hour later, at 16h45, Circo Pequeno will hold its Juggling Show and Workshop, to be followed by the Parade, at 18h00.

For those who missed it on Saturday there will be another opportunity to see Paul Philippart's brilliant Magic Prediction at 18h30, which will be followed by the Grand Draw, at 19h00, and this time includes the Star Prize of a seven-night Medi-



Characters from last years parade having fun at the fair

terranean Cruise, courtesy of Royal Caribbean. A Jam Session will take place from 19h45 onwards, featuring guest musicians and lots of surprises, until at least 22h00.

And although the utmost is done to keep to the programme, there may be last minute altera-

tions due to unforeseen circumstances.

There will be a dedicated children's entertainment area in the arena, while clowns, jugglers and magicians will also be teaching simple juggling and other tricks on the central grass area.

In the Algarve Dog Show area

there will be displays and training and many other attractions for pet lovers, all day long. How much more entertainment could be squeezed into one weekend?

For more information on any of the Fair's activities, see website: www.algarvefair.com.

Ocean Restaurant on 'The Star Route'

Vila Vita Parc's one-Michelin starred restaurant, Ocean, will be participating in a unique Portuguese celebration of six Michelin-awarded restaurants, named 'The Star Route'.

Ocean Restaurant, which belongs to the exclusive, five-star Vila Vita Resort, is the only Algarve restaurant to participate in a unique Portuguese celebration of six Michelin-awarded restaurants.

Resident chef Hans Neuner, from Ocean at Vila Vita Parc, will be joined by Joachim Koerper from Eleven in Lisbon and Vincent Farges from Fortaleza do Guincho, Cascais, for two evenings of gourmet food and fine wine.

This unique opportunity, which takes place on May 22nd and 23rd, will see the three chefs prepare a special seven-course menu, with each chef cooking a different course.

Hans Neuner will be preparing the Amuse Bouche, with Joachim Koerper putting together a dish of roast sardine with Quinoa salad, dates and pine-seeds.

Sautéed red mullet, a streusel of fennel with aromatic herbs and Parmesan Cheese, and an own gravy with liver will be prepared by Vincent Farges.

Joachim Koerper will also be offering a lobster with artichokes dish, with an Alentejo wine pairing.

A creation of rabbit with Madagascar banana, vanilla,

spinach, nuts, butter and pumpkin will be presented by Hans Neuner, with the menu also featuring roasted young lamb, a crunchy Panisse with Boulangère of Chive and Pata Negra Ham, spring broad beans, and gravy, by Vincent Farges.

The menu if further completed by a pre-dessert and a dessert of Chocolate Valrhona Guanaja 70%, with Ivoire, raspberries and caramel.

Guests will dine in the beautiful Ocean restaurant where numbers are limited to only 26 - an intimate celebration of the best food in Portugal.

The dinner costs €180 per person and includes cocktails on arrival at The Lover's Fountain, a full wine pairing with dinner, coffee and port.

Reservations are essential and can be made via telephone: (+351) 282 310 100; fax 282 32 03 33; or email reservas@vilavita.com.

For more information, see: www.vilavita.com The six restaurants taking part in The Star Route are:

Ocean (Algarve), Il Gallo d'Oro (Funchal), Tavares (Lisbon), Arcadas (Coimbra), Fortaleza do Guincho (Cascais) and Eleven (Lisbon).

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Britain: A Marriage of Convenience

There has not been a coalition government in Britain since the Second World War, but it may have to get used to them. The election on 6 May left both major parties, the Conservatives and Labour, short of a majority, and put history's also-rans, the Liberal Democratic Party, in the position of king-maker. It has used that position very cleverly, and Britain may be heading for a major constitutional change.

Nick Clegg, the Liberal Democratic leader, used the five days of hectic negotiations after the election to extract a high price from the Conservative Party for agreeing to enter a coalition with them. Policy differences on taxes or educational policy could be finessed fairly easily, but Clegg's bottom line was electoral reform. That used to be a Conservative red line – but in the end they crossed it.

Electoral reform? Who cares about that except a few policy wonks? Well, no: the Liberal Democrats care passionately

about it. It's the only way that they can ever fight their way back into the centre ring of politics.

The Lib Dems' political ancestors are the Liberals and, before them, the Whigs. For more than two centuries that lineage provided one of the two great parties that alternated in power in Britain. Then in the 1920s, with the rise of the Labour Party, the Liberals came third in one election – and never found their way back to power.

The winner-take-all British electoral system ("first-past-the-post") is cruelly unfair to third parties. In the election just past, the Lib Dems got almost a quarter of the votes – but less than a tenth of the seats in parliament. So many people saw a vote for them as a wasted vote, even if they liked their ideas.

It was a vicious circle, so for many decades now the most urgent tactical goal of the Lib Dems has been to change the voting system. Alternative vote, "alternative vote plus," proportional representation – anything that gave them a fair chance of winning.

The two "major" parties, the beneficiaries of the existing system, naturally resisted any change in the electoral rules. The only way it could ever happen is if both of them had to beg for the support of the Lib Dems. Like now.

Lib Dem leader Nick Clegg would have preferred a coalition with Labour, since most Lib Dem voters are more or less on the left. But he rightly said that he had to talk to the Conservatives first, since they had ended up with more seats than Labour after the election on 6 May – and he also knew that Labour would be an even less trustworthy partner in power than the Conservatives.

Former prime minister Gordon Brown tried hard to make a deal with the Lib Dems that would keep the Labour Party in power, but his party, aware of the savage cuts that any incoming government would have to make to deal with a runaway budget deficit, didn't agree. Many of them thought that this was a good election to lose – so Brown's prospective coalition partners, the Liberal Democrats, could not trust Labour to keep any deal he made.

A senior Liberal Democrat, discussing the parallel negotiations that the Lib Dems conducted with Labour, explained that though the talks were amicable, "problems remain on deliverability and Labour cohesion". In other words, some Labour members of parliament would rebel against the deal, probably sooner rather than later

– and since a Lib-Lab coalition would have the slimmest of majorities, just a few rebels could bring the coalition down.

Prime Minister David Cameron, on the other hand, may come to rue the day when he agreed to the terms of the deal that finally put him in office.

Cameron was not well liked by large sectors of the Conservative Party that he leads even before the election: he was a "moderniser", and Conservatives are conservative. But he is more actively disliked now, because many senior members of the party (and probably most of the rank and file) blame him for failing to pull off a clear win against a Labour Party that was exhausted and partly discredited after thirteen years in power.

They thought they were cruising smoothly to victory, and they wound up twenty seats short of a majority. They accepted the extortionate concessions that the Liberal Democrats demanded for a coalition because after thirteen years in the wilderness they were positively panting with eagerness to be in government again. But when the going gets rough, they will blame Cameron for those concessions too.

The biggest concession was, of course, a promise to the Lib Dems to hold a referendum on changing the electoral system. Labour made a similar promise, but in the assessment of the Lib Dems a coalition with Labour would not survive long enough to get the legislation through, so they ended the Lib-Lab talks.

The Conservative-Liberal Democratic coalition, on the other hand, has a big enough majority in parliament that it cannot be brought down by just a few rebels from either party. It could actually last four years, which would be long enough to change the voting system (if the voters agree, and current opinion polls suggest that they would).

That is the Lib Dem strategy. If it succeeds, coalition governments will become the norm in Britain.



Gwynne Dyer is a London based independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries.

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Her lifelong ambition, since finishing High School, was to run her own practice, so in 1993 Cristina managed to fulfil her dream by moving to Lagoa and establishing her very own clinic. She later upgraded to a better location, also in Lagoa, where she still remains practising.

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Dra Cristina is looking to bring in more patients, relying on her great knowledge in the area to work as a base for future patients.

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THIS WEEK'S PROFILES



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Algarve Book Cellar



Ray Compton, owner of the Algarve Book Cellar in Carvoeiro, has got the shop of his dreams.

The massive shop measures some 200 square metres, and is filled to the brim with 75,000-plus books with tastes for all sorts. His massive stock of second hand and brand new foreign books are all neatly arranged in alphabetical order and by category.

Since having undergone renovations, the Algarve Book Cellar organised its collection and divided the shop into sections, including a 'crime' section, (almost the entirety of the original shop is dedicated to this category); a children's section, a 'chick-lit' section, and a 'third-language' section, which is packed with a growing stock of books in languages including German, French and Dutch.

For those who want to 'test-drive' their books, a comfortable seating area with two cushy sofas and lots of light has been set aside.

Ray is delighted with his shop, and, despite dedicating eight years of his life to the business, which he established in June 2002 and like any other has had its up and downs, is now "more passionate than ever" about literature!

Since its founding ABC has become a point of reference amongst foreigners in Carvoeiro, a meeting place, somewhere to enjoy a good chat and discuss the latest bestsellers and literary classic with the highly knowledgeable Ray. Clients now come purposely from all over Portugal, with Ray regularly sending books to residents from as far away as Oporto.

As one of the region's first 'English bookshops' ABC is now quite possibly one of the largest of its genre in Portugal, something more of a 'little library' than a shop.

And as for his dream, now it has been achieved there is just one more ambition on Ray's list: "I just want to put a few signs in the window", he says.

The opinions expressed here are those of our readers and not necessarily of The Portugal News. The editor reserves the right to edit letters or refuse publication. Send your letters, which must include your name and full postal address (even if you wish to remain anonymous on the page), and should be under 300 words, to The Portugal News, Apartado 13, 8401-901 Lagoa. E-mail address: letters@theportugalnews.com

Henry Root (1)

SIR, I can't speak for Messrs Baugh and Clare, but personally I am rather flattered that Mr. Richmond has compared my ramblings on the Letters Page, even indirectly, with those of Donald Williamson. Much better known as Henry Root, (retired wet fish merchant), he was one of the most original and entertaining writers since P J Wodehouse. My thanks for the unsolicited compliment!

Having been tempted to send a contribution to the Letters page himself, how often will Mr. Richmond have to write before he can be classed as a sad case like those of us who feel the need to write more often?

Would an expert on world currency please tell us how Portugal, with a greater total debt than Greece, can afford to lend the latter 2 billion Euros?

It reminds me of the guy wanting to employ a financial advisor. He asked each one of the six applicants how much 2 plus 2 came to and got the expected answer from the first five - 2 plus two equals 4, of course. The last one, having been asked the same question, got up, closed the door, returned to his seat and whispered "How much would you like it to be?" Guess who got the job.

Ron Lavery. By e-mail
Henry Root (2)

SIR, Despite your disclaimer at the foot of the letter purporting to be from 'Peter Richmond' (Letters 7th May), your attempt at double-bluff is exposed! Under

der the guise of this somewhat bland nom de guerre, it is fairly clear that you and your editorial staff are responsible for this letter, despite your attempt at convoluted, euphuistic language intended to throw us off the scent. A further clue lies in your expression "using the alias, Henry Root", hoping that we, your readers, will take you seriously, as did those of 'Henry Root'.

There may, however, be a more serious motive behind 'Peter Richmond'. Is 'his' letter a cry for help from one who feels "a continual need to air...opinions in the press", but who is not allowed to do so, being 'staff'; or are you trying out a new office boy?

If my theory is correct and your subterfuge has been exposed, I wonder if your editorial staff will continue to provide the Letters page readership with iconoclastic anti-clericalism, wide-ranging criticism of human folly and hard-nosed cynicism presented under the three pseudonyms quoted in your letter. I hope so, or we shall be deprived of much enjoyment - be it amusement or incandescent rage - by their demise.

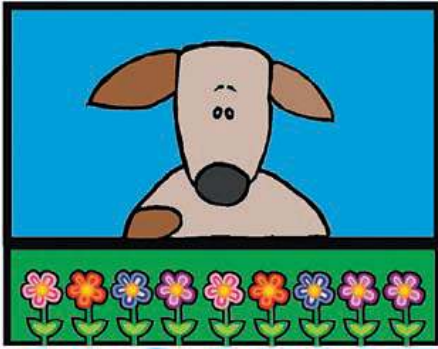
Martin Scribblor, by email
European Health Insurance Card

SIR, There has been little notification in the media of the changes to the EHIC with regard to foreigners resident in Portugal. Under a new EU law, as from May 1st all foreigners in receipt of a state pension from another EU country must have an EHIC

issued by the pension-paying country. In this case it replaces any card they may have that was issued in Portugal for use in the EU. This is not to be confused with the Portuguese Medical Card issued for use by residents in Portugal. From my limited experience with British expats it would seem that few people have been contacted by the British authorities and sent the necessary form to return to Britain for the new card. Those without new EHIC cards would have to rely

on showing a passport to obtain state healthcare treatment in other EU countries. For anyone wanting a new card the following details may be useful.

More information and help can be had from: EHIC Enquiries, PO Box 1114, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE99 2TL. Tel. 0044 845 6050707. (Mon to Fri 8.00am to 6.00pm and Sat 9.00am to 3.00pm) Website www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk or e-mail ehicenquiries@ppa.nhs.uk Name & address supplied



ALGARVE DOG SHOW

Purely for dog lovers - training seminars, grooming demos, dog displays and more.

LAGOA • Fatacil
5 / 6 June • 11.00h - 19.00h

Exhibition Hotline 282 380 317 algarvefair.com

www.theportugalnews.com

Europe's Most Southern English Literature Salon

ALFA - the association of literature friends in the Algarve holds a literature salon in English. Every first Monday of the month, at 7.30 p.m.

This gathering of authors and readers aimed at inspiring to unknown creativity, will next meet on 7th June at the Convento de S. José in Lagoa with Lynne and

Peter Booker.

ALFA is not a book club, where you have to read certain books in order to participate. Here you listen to others reading, get food for thought and become inspired to read or write, paint or sing, or just simply be creative.

More information on Tel 282 413 160

Church move

The International Christian Fellowship is moving to just round the corner from Avda 25 de Abril to Rua N.S. Amparo in the Cedipraia shopping centre. They will be meeting in "The Bridge" rooms which are being remodelled and the first serv-

ice in the new location will be on Sunday June 6th at 11am.

There will still be Sunday school for children in English and Portuguese.

For more information please call telephone: 282 461 985 or 91 735 8098

New International Rotary Club in the West Algarve

Vila Vita Parc, Porches, will be the home of the new English speaking International Rotary Club and their first meeting will be held on May 20th.

Lunchtime meetings will be held on three Thursdays every month from 12.00-1.30. These will be followed by an optional lunch, so members with business commitments will be free to leave.

The last Thursday of each month will be a Rotary Dinner for members, their partners, family and friends. This will not be a business meeting, more an evening of friendship and fellowship in the true Rotary tradition.

The three initiators are Paul Lantau, Theo de Jager and David Trubshaw, who between them have over 50 years of past Rotary service and experience. They told The Portuguese News how delighted and honoured they all felt for the opportunity and challenge to start from scratch and develop the new ALGARVE WEST INTERNATIONAL ROTARY CLUB, Porches.

Paul, the incoming President, had Rotary experience in the Netherlands, U.K. and Portugal. He said how pleased he was that the formalities and procedures for establishing the new club were progressing well with Mario Rebelo, the District Governor and others and they hoped their full Charter Ceremony would take place in June.

Theo, the Secretary, confirmed they had already received an encouraging number of applications from potential new members, some with Rotary experience, others keen to learn and participate. This proved how

important it was to start a new Rotary Club in the West as there were many business and professional men and women who could not spare the time to travel the 100-120 kilometres to either of the other two current International Rotary Clubs in the East.

David, the Master of Ceremonies and Press Officer, explained that the decision to set up a new Rotary Club in the West was not a new idea. It had been discussed nearly four years ago as a natural progression, after the two existing International Clubs in Almancil and Estoi were fully established. Now is that time and Vila Vita Parc, the venue of the new Rotary Club, is probably the most beautiful resort in the Algarve and geographically ideally placed for Western residents.

Rotary - A Few Basic Facts

Rotary International started in 1905 as being the first Service Club and today is a global network of community service volunteers. Today there are more than 1.2 million members, in over 32,000 Rotary Clubs in over 200 countries - and Rotary is still growing!

Rotary clubs are non-political, non-religious and open to all creeds, cultures and races.

The Rotary motto is "Service above Self" and the primary objective of a Rotary Club is to raise funds for charities and institutions, both locally and internationally, in an atmosphere of friendship and fellowship.

For more information about the ALGARVE WEST INTERNATIONAL ROTARY CLUB, please email the Secretary - theo.dejager@world.net.pt



Theo de Jager, Paul Lantau and David Trubshaw

Portuguese for Beginners

Emília Rosendo

168

THIS LESSON:

Adjectives which describe people's character.

❶ Choose the correct adjective - in the box - to complete each sentence below.

Write the correct endings.

trabalhador	pessimista	reservado
inconstante	paciente	ingénuo
persistente	poupado	vaidoso
esbanjador	modesto	guloso
ganancioso	azarado	gentil

1. Ele nem parece ser um dos actores mais famosos do momento! É simpático, acessível e, sobretudo, muito _____.
2. Todas as pessoas devem saber esperar tranquilamente, isto é, devem ser _____.
3. Esta criança não resiste à tentação dos doces, principalmente dos bolos de chocolate e dos gelados. Ela é tão _____!
4. Ele tem um emprego fixo e, aos fins de semana e nas férias, um *part-time*. A família diz que ele é muito _____.
5. Eles ganham bem mas gastam o dinheiro todo no que precisam e também em banalidades. Eles são extremamente _____.

6. Ele é tão _____ que acredita em tudo aquilo que as pessoas lhe contam...mesmo em coisas em que nem uma criança de 4 anos acredita!
7. Ela é uma rapariga com muito boas maneiras e atitudes extremamente moderadas. Todos dizem que ela é muito _____.
8. Aquele rapaz adora ser o centro das atenções, especialmente quando usa roupas novas ou tem alguma coisa nova. Ele é mesmo _____!
9. Ela gosta de guardar algum dinheiro para futuras ocasiões ou imprevistos. É uma senhora _____.
10. Ele não tem talento para o desporto, mas continua a praticar para melhorar. Ele é muito _____.
11. Tudo corre mal àquele rapaz que não tem sorte nenhuma! Todos dizem que é mesmo _____!
12. Até parece que aqueles rapazes querem conquistar a lua por serem tão _____.
13. Que rapariga tão _____! Num dia acha que algo é vermelho e logo no seguinte acha que é amarelo!
14. Ninguém sabe o que se passa na cabeça dele por ser um homem tão _____.
15. Ele é muito _____, pois acha que tudo na sua vida vai correr mal.

Please send your completed exercises, with your name and address, to me: Emília Rosendo at THE NEWS and I will send them back corrected
THE NEWS - Rua Município de S. Domingos, Urb. Lagoa-Sol, Lote 3 - r/c, 8400 - 415 Lagoa. Apartado 13, 8401-901 Lagoa
Tel 282 341100. Fax: 282 341201

The Algarve Dog Show



5th and 6th June 2010
Bigger and Better than last year!

There is not just a dog show going on but training sessions, face painting, games of Feed the Dog and Pin the Tail on the Dog - not a real one! We have the tail, just need the body!! There are fun classes of Owner Lookalike: yes I know that people say that I look like my mums Old English Sheepdog at times, but it is not just about the face value look but you can do your hair to look like your doggies ears and paint your face. It is just a bit of fun. Does your

doggy have the Waggiest Tail or gorgeous eyes. All are welcome / from 4 months of age, mixed breed or pedigree. The aim is to have fun while raising money for the waifs and strays of the Algarve.

Our show vets Bruno and Rui from Clínica Veterinária de Vilamoura will be on hand both days. They will be offering Free Health Checks, they will do Nail Clipping and will also be offering reduced cost Diagnostic Tests for

Heartworm, Leishmaniasis and Tick Fever. Microchipping will also be available for those who have not had their doggy done.

Register online for classes to save queuing on the day! Go to www.algarvedogshow.com for details or pick up a leaflet from Paws4Pets, or other outlets across the Algarve.

Best Paws Forward!
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www.algarvedogshow.com

Milo & Me



Milo & Me this week was almost just 'Me'.

Last weekend we had a minor emergency when Milo fell into my fiancée's parents' swimming pool. I have never, and I repeat NEVER, felt so panicked in my life.

We had gone over to the future in-laws' for breakfast on Sunday morning, and then we were going to take Milo for a walk to the dunes in Alvor with their Jack Russell, Lucky.

I thought an older more set-in-his-ways dog might be a good, calming influence on Milo. But we all know what 'thought' did... (For those of you who don't, 'thought' planted a feather and 'thought' it would grow a chicken)

Anyway, we had left the two dogs playing out in the garden, but

funnily enough, the night before I had dreamt about Milo falling in the pool (not that I'm claiming to be psychic, otherwise I would be a millionaire by now). I had said to my fiancée that very morning, "what if Milo falls in the pool?". His answer had been "Dogs don't fall in pools! I've had dogs and pools all my life and never have any of my dogs fallen into a pool!"

Yes, well, this one obviously isn't any dog. Bless him. To say he's all brawn and no brain is some days quite a compliment.

Milo doesn't understand that no matter how long he barks at Alfie his teddy, Alfie just won't bark back. He goes ballistic at the mop and bucket; he hasn't realised yet that his tail is attached to his body or that no matter how long he stares at his biscuits they won't pour themselves into his dish.

Anyway, back to the swimming pool. I heard Milo barking frantically while we were in the kitchen, and I just knew. I rushed out to the pool and there he was, in the corner, trying to clamber out of the water. He looked like a

little drowned rat. I flew at him and can't even remember how I pulled him out, but I did and in the blink of an eye. I think at that moment I was possessed by superwoman. Now I know why mums say that they find super-human powers when their children are in danger.

I dried him down, made sure he seemed ok, hugged him for what seemed like a very long time (not that he understands 'hugs' - in his doggy mind I'm probably just a mad woman who keeps squeezing him, but I needed it), got soaked in the process, and took him for a long walk in the sunshine for both of us to dry off with Lucky in tow. Within minutes Milo was back to his bouncy self and I managed to go back and finish off my breakfast (I've been blessed with an indestructible Yorkshire appetite. Phew).

We still took both dogs for their long walk on the dunes. Milo walked without a leash, followed the 'sit' and 'come here' commands like a star pupil, and followed Lucky everywhere he went. I think towards the end of the walk Lucky was actually starting to tire of his over-enthusiastic new friend. But we were very proud of his good social behaviour and obedience. Then Milo

Wussy the cat --- this is so sad. Tissues handy

Wussy arrived uninvited in March 2009, she had found her way into my kitchen and couldn't have been more than three months old if that. After a quick tempestuous introduction to Buddy my five years old cat devouring, and pussy hating Husky - resulting in this intruder cowering under the sofa for an hour, the war ended and peace reigned.

Wussy became a part of all our lives, she soon found the printer, the mouse on the computer, the warmth of the computer box and my bed! She had no qualms about laying across my face or head or diving straight down the sheets into my lap. She'd come when called for lunch with a dog whistle and wait high on the rooftops until I came home.

She fell ill soon after arriving, but a vet's visit solved that, but once a month or so, she'd have that running nose/eyes and off we'd go again. It became a regular problem, whether she had some incurable disease I don't know, but she never grew in size remaining the tiniest cat I ever saw.

She was always everywhere, in the bathroom watching, in the garden with the dogs, on the computer, even in the car to the shops. When we walked the dogs, she'd tag along.

Sad to say, she caught another cold and died very quickly, before I had time to get her to the vet in Silves.

Although she'd only been with us a year, she broke my heart as pets do when they go, leaving that bottomless hole in your heart that cannot be filled with a simple replacement. However, this all happened just one month ago and the house



still echoes of her presence.

If anyone has a kitten like this, a replacement or even two would be welcomed at my home. Not spayed please as I'd love to be a dad again!!

Bye Bye Wussy

You left a little message in the bathroom Tuesday night, That's not like you 'cos your house trained, and we knew it wasn't tright,

You seemed a bit depressed that day and I hoped you'd cheer up fast,

And by Wednesday I knew that you weren't going to last, On Thursday you were off your food and fallen fast asleep,

Just one more day to go before that final leap, I should have known with all these signs that it was getting late,

But I ignored the signs you left and left you to your fate, You slept alone beneath the bed upon that fateful night, I kissed you nitey nitey, make sure the bugs don't bite,

The night came on and angels came and took you far away, Now all I have is memories, of Wussy... couldn't stay.

With thanks to Graham Cockroft MD Wholesale villas Lda. If anyone can help him with kittens email him on graham@wholesalevillas.com



The Algarve Dog Show
5th and 6th June 2010
Bigger and Better than last year!

The BIG HEART award

Let the VOTING begin!
Even if you have nominated someone - you need to vote
Voting opened 1st May 2010.

How to Vote:

1. Go to shop.paws4pets.net
2. Login (if already registered) or register
3. Scroll down the Home Page to the poll.
4. Register your vote by clicking on the button next to your chosen person's name.

Can I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has taken the time to nominate people for the Big Heart award. It is good that we can acknowledge the people who spend so much time and effort behind the scenes, to help those who can not help themselves.

All votes will be counted up until 12 midnight on 5th June 2010. The winner will be announced at The Algarve Dog Show on Sunday 6th June 2010 at 6pm, and a presentation will be made to the winner at that time.

Good Luck everyone!

Best Paws Forward!
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doesn't really bark they just make seagull-like squawks. Guess Milo is an exception to the general rule then! Who knew he would do both and with such zest! But that can be applied to most things he does.

The other day - and bear in mind he's three months old and weighs 11 kilos - he moved the lawnmower all by himself, from its under-stair storage in the garden to the lawn. It was probably little over a metre, across the patio tiles, but still, it's further than I've ever moved it!

We took the hint and cut the grass. So maybe he is smarter than we give him credit for...

Carrie-Marie Bratley

Hi There !



Last two weeks on these pages the Portuguese dog breeds were presented. Some of them are very rare but still, and sadly, you can find them in the dog shelters. If you would like to give home to a dog of one of the Portuguese breeds or a cross, go to our website:

www.bianca.pt/english and look for : Castro and Matilde (Castro Laboreiro), Belita and Ganesha (x Serra da Estrela), Dog and Dani (Fila de São Miguel), Gloria, Lady and Pancinha (Perdigueiro), Areias, Puga, Cyra and Nova (Podengo). On the picture - AREIAS, young and gentle Podengo. Please contact us at: sesimbra.bianca@gmail.com



BERTIE is a large four year old male. He is extra friendly and loving and has been at the shelter for too long. He loves people, is excellent with all other dogs. He really is a special boy and anyone who know the dogs at the shelter will agree he has a great character and nature. If you want to adopt Bertie, please email Tania [as6259943@sapo.pt] or call Katy 919100160



Are you looking for a kitten? We have many pretty and friendly ones waiting for a nice loving home. They are wormed and deflead. Call Valerie for a visit 913 860 865 or lili10.evann@yahoo.fr



Many nice and friendly puppies are waiting for good loving homes at the Donkey Sanctuary. They are all wormed and deflead and some have their first inoculations. Come and visit them. Call Valerie for a visit 913 860 865 or lili10.evann@yahoo.fr

actually fell asleep in the car on the way home.

Looking back the funniest

thing is that our vet - who also owns a Wiemaraner - told us we must encourage him to enjoy water. Her dog apparently doesn't like it but swimming is excellent for their chest muscles (Weim's are very broad-chested). She also said that the Wiem is a breed that



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Replacement for most expensive veterinary diets.
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Lots of gain (if a little pain)

ACCA (helping children in need in the Algarve) is thrilled to announce that their Charity Bike Ride, held on Sunday 2nd May, was a resounding success and they raised in excess of €5,000. This was far beyond their original target of €3,500 and means that they can buy everything on the list supplied by the new crèche for poor children in Olhão.

The day itself went without a hitch. They had 50 riders registered and everyone really enjoyed the route which was planned by Paul Beesley of Activity Algarve (www.activityalgarve.com).

This route took everyone around the beautiful Ria Formosa and through Quinta Do Lago into the countryside behind Almancil, areas few had explored before. They stopped at Browns in Vilamoura, who kindly offered cool water and a chance to recharge batteries. Then off towards Boliqueime and back along the coast via Vilamoura Marina, Quarteira, Trafal and finally up a very big hill in Vale Do Lobo (aptly named Killer Hill!). Then a final stretch back to the starting point at Quinta Shopping and refreshments, heavily discounted, courtesy of some of the restaurants there.

Everyone taking part did so with such a positive spirit and they worked so hard to get sponsorship that we really have to take our hats off to them. There was a prize for

the highest individual sponsorship and, though it is yet to be finalised, it looks like first and second place go to Christine Lincoln and Scott Anthony who raised €850 and €701 respectively.

The organisers also wish to say a massive thank you to Quinta Properties who sponsored the stylish polo shirts and whose support means that, apart from the snacks and water, every euro can go towards our project. So thank you to Kerstin and Alison (who took part as well, incidentally).

The organisers can't wait to collect all the money in and go shopping for the essential items for Noah's Ark Crèche and will keep everyone informed of their progress. Plus, it is possible they may have money left over for an additional project, so will let readers know about that too. In the meantime, they say thank you so much for all your support and good wishes. Not only do they feel proud to have made so much money for local children in need, but point out that all have achieved something personally and beneficial to their health (even though there were a few aching limbs on Monday morning!). A small price to pay, though. Next stop Tour de France? Perhaps not!

For further information or to make a donation, please email sam@accakids.com or visit the website on www.accakids.com.



Summer fair in Tavira

On Saturday 22nd May there will be a Summer Fair at the Mercado da Ribeira, Tavira from 10am until 1pm, organised by the Tavira Fund Raisers in aid of the Canil Sao Francisco, Loulé. Stalls will include home made cakes,

pastries, jams, chutneys, hand made cards, herbs and spices, second hand books, clothes, bric-a-brac, jewellery and paintings. Donations of good quality clothes and bric-a-brac wanted. Contact Pat on 281 323 493.

UNIVERSITY OF MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS

One Voice

United Spring Concert
joint service of the English speaking churches of the Algarve.
Special Guest Acapella Youth Choir - "One Voice"
From the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor in Belton, Texas.
Guest Speaker- Luke Thompson
Thursday, May 20th at 7.30pm
at the International Evangelical Church of the Algarve
Vale Judeu.

For more information, contact:
Matt Crooks, Assistant Director of Choral Activities, smc@umh.edu
University of Mary-Hardin-Baylor, UMHB Box 8012
900 College Street, Belton, TX 76713, (254) 255-4303

Wolf Valley Charity Day

The Wolf Valley Charity's Golf and Family Day at Vale Do Lobo is on June 5th and is open to everyone.

Charity Day events will include a golf tournament on the Royal and Ocean courses (Four Ball Better Ball Stableford – teams of two – partners can be arranged). Prices for the golf (including a €5 voucher that can be spent at Spikes) are €60 per person. Buggies will be available (please call 289353465) to make bookings. A highlight will be the Algarve Racing open day at Vale do Lobo which will include an R44 helicopter, racing cars, a Honda Superbike and a powerboat racer. There will be putting competition; a raffle with excellent prizes including air tickets; tombola; wine tasting; a book stall and a cake stall. An added and potentially valuable attraction is the hole-in-one competition on which the prizes are an Audi and a VW – one on each of the golf courses. For more details or to make bookings contact the Wolf Valley Charity Fund at wolfvc@yahoo.com or call (+351) 289394655.

The traditional Dinner and

Dance will now be held in October when there will be an auction and other attractions.

ASCA – Community Center in Almancil, is one of the charities being supported by the WVCF this year. ASCA is constructing a new residential care center for the elderly which should be ready for occupation towards the end of 2010. The WVCF will provide furnishings and furniture for this care center. In March Existir, a Loulé charity, received a specially adapted Citroën minibus from the Wolf Valley Charity Fund.

UNIR was given over some photographic, printing and internet equipment this month. This is in addition to the computers that the WVCF provided earlier this year for teaching internet and IT skills. UNIR is a day care center in Loulé that provides invaluable support to the mentally handicapped. They use art therapy using famous Disney images to improve the skills of the 22 persons they care for. The WVCF has been supporting UNIR for a number of years and have, in past years, donated a minibus as well as vital food supplies and Christmas hampers.



UNIR Making Roses – Standing Left to Right – Marion Geer, Edda Lungershausen (both committee members of the WVCF) and Margarida Trindade, UNIR

Walking in the beautiful Algarve

Wednesday May 19th - Let's Walk from Raposeira

A great walk of 2.5 hours through part of the Natural Park

with views to the sea.

14.00 meet in the car park at Raposeira. Drive on the EN125 towards Sagres and at the lights in Raposeira turn left (towards Ingrina) and immediately on the right is a car park in front of the school (café opposite).

All are welcome to come along - there is no need to book (there is a charge of 5 euro per walk which includes a donation to charity). Please wear comfortable shoes, bring some water and a sense of humour!

If you require more details please call: Julie Statham 965 753 033

Bike rides

Saturday 15th May :- Bike Ride - Starting at Faro Railway station, Park wherever you can near to Faro railway station. Meet at 09.20 am to catch the 09.30 train to Tavira. A moderately challenging ride of around 40km on a mixture of dirt tracks and tarmac roads.

Sunday 16th May :- Bike Ride - Starting in Lagoa, parking at or near to Netto Supermarket. Meet at 09.45 for a 10.00 start. This



Ewan Rankin, José Alves, Richard Evans, David Thomas, Captain Ron Goddard

Victoria Seguros Trophy

This month the Royal British Club Golf Society played for the Victoria Seguros Trophy at Estoril. Many members had been scratching their heads for days trying to think of the perfect club selection as this competition was for Four Clubs and a Putter. Members went onto the course with much lighter golf bags than usual and with hopes that they had made the right decision. The prize list proved that some members had got it right!

Winner this month with 37 points was Richard Evans, followed by Ewan Rankin in second place with 34. Three members scored 32 points and, after count backs, third prize went to David Thomas, fourth to Harley Barnard and fifth to Chris Goulding. The sixth prize was won by Hans Ludolph with 30 points.

The nearest pin winners – Derek McIvor and Teresa Negrão – received bottles of Taylors Port with Teresa's ap-

propriately being the new pink aperitif version. The Newstead Cup was won by Isabel Nygren, the Guest prize by the only guest – John Hoccom! The fight for Cow Bell went to Lars Nygren and the Top Ten winner was Carl Eggers. The Captain's Mini Cow Bell which is drawn from those players who had not won a prize was awarded this month to Max Zimmerli.

We were pleased that José Alves – a long time member of the Society – was able to join us to represent our sponsors. An enjoyable lunch was served at the Club House on the slightly chilly veranda and members were able to relax and discuss which club might have been a better choice – or not!

The next competition will be the Portucala Stone which will be played at Ribagolfe on June 3rd – a Thursday and a holiday – to make it easier for members to avoid the rush hour traffic.

Bowls Algarve Summer League

Larks and Kestrels Fly High, Eagles and Doves Grounded

A new Summer League opened today with ten teams eagerly chasing the coveted title. All teams went to Valverde for the opening fixture, played in lovely bowling conditions. Each team has two triples, each playing two sets of nine ends. Two points for each set won and two more for the overall aggregate, gives plenty of points for every team to chase.

ABC Cats played Pedras who romped home by 45-33 and 8 points to 2, whilst Alvor Larks and Doves clashed in a flurry of flying feathers, with the Larks taking all 10 points, winning by 47-22. Two new teams, Alvor Kestrels and Alvor Eagles played each other with the Kestrels off to a winning start by an impres-

sive 64-23 and scoring 8 points to 2. Amendoeira also had a winning start to the new Summer season, beating Tavira by 38-33 and pocketing 8 points to 2. The final game saw hosts Valverde open their account with a 38-31 victory over the PDF Pirates, again by 8 points to 2.

Early days, but Larks top the table on 10 points, followed by the Kestrels, Pedras, Valverde and Amendoeira all locked together on 8 points. Tavira, Pirates, Cats and Eagles have yet to open their account.

Next week all teams head for Alvor to play out the second round of fixtures in what promises to be a very close and exciting competition.

Alan Clarke – League Director

For more club news, please see page 24

May Concerts at São Lourenço



Katya Apekisheva, Piano & Jack Liebeck, Violin. These concerts will be on Wednesday May 26th and Saturday May 29th, 2010. Wednesday's concert will feature sonatas by Bach and Brahms, a Grieg piano solo and Bloch's Suite Baal Shem. The Saturday concert will consist of Mozart's Sonata in G Major, a Prokofiev sonata for two violins (the second violinist will be Victoria Sales) with piano accompaniment, a Tchaikovsky solo piano variation and Ravel's sonata for violin and piano in G. This will be a very welcome return for Katya and Jack who last enchanted concert goes at São Lourenço in 2008.

Katya Apekisheva was born into a musical family in Moscow. After studying in Moscow she continued in Jerusalem and then in London at the Royal College of Music. In 1995 she won the President's Rose Bowl for the outstanding pianist of the year. In 1996 Katya was nominated the London Philharmonic/Pioneer Young Soloist of the Year and then performed with that orchestra. She continued to win prizes including the Schubert Prize at the AXA Dublin Piano Competition. Katya has performed throughout Europe, the USA and Asia with major orchestras under conductors such as Sir Simon Rattle. As a chamber musician she collaborates with ensembles and soloists including Jack Liebeck. She has made recordings for BBC Radio 3 and released several CDs.

Jack Liebeck was born in London in 1980. He initially

studied at the Purcell School of Music and then at the Royal Academy of Music where he graduated in 2003. He has been performing in concerts and recitals since he was eleven. He made his concert debut with the Halle Orchestra and has since performed with many major European orchestras under the baton of many renowned conductors including Sir Neville Marriner and Leonard Slatkin. Jack is an acclaimed chamber musician and has performed with Katya, Piers Lane (another São Lourenço favourite) and Joan Rogers. Jack has appeared in many festivals including Bath, Cheltenham, MontPELLier, Montreux and also in Australia at the Festival of Chamber Music. Jack's debut CD (with Katya Apekisheva) received the Daily Telegraph's "CD of the Week" as well as the "Strad Selection" and a Classical Brit nomination. Jack is the Artistic Director of the Oxford May Music Festival now in its third year. Jack plays the "Ex-Wilhelm" JB Guadagnini from 1785. There is more about Jack on www.jackliebeck.com

Concerts at the Centro Cultural begin at 7.30pm sharp. Wine, lemonade and "nibbles" are served from 7.00pm. During the interval wine and canapés are served. Entry is €25 for guests and non-members. For more information visit www.amigos-de-musica.org or www.centroculturalsaolourenco.com or call 289395475.

June/July 2010 Concerts. Pál Lindtner Eide, Piano. These will be on Wednesday June 30th & Saturday July 3rd, 2010.



Dinah Littlewood fits one of her creations on to Rachel Swarte

The Beer Spot opens in Albufeira

The Beer Spot is a new concept that brings top quality beers from around the world to Albufeira, where the franchise's first bar/shop has opened.

Mário Castro spent months travelling around Europe's best beer hotspots, such as Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, and others, to learn the trade and the traditions of the exquisite art of beer, an arduous but enjoyable task, especially for a huge beer fanatic like Mário. After extensive research and contacts made, Mário decided to put his idea into motion and create a quality beer establishment in the Algarve, where he believes the concept will excel. With quality being the company's priority, The Beer Spot offers a vast selection of some of the finest ales, stouts, pilsners, ciders, lagers, available

on the market, selling exclusive beers that cannot be found in any other establishment in Portugal.

The bar, located in Albufeira's old town, also doubles as a shop with take-away service, offering over 100 different beers for the bar and over 200 for the takeaway service. A total of 530 varieties of beers can also be bought from their online store.

"People have always wanted to try new beers but had nowhere to go until now" said Mário Castro, who is confident his idea will be a success due to its unique offering: "Only high quality beer is served, together with some exclusive whiskies, cognacs and cigars; complemented with a fantastic selection of Tapas, making The Beer Spot an ideal spot for unwinding with friends."

Choosing the appropriate beer

Out of the closet. . .

Artist takes over Aperitivo's theatrical wardrobe

It is quite something for someone who has never made a dress before to take on making all the costumes for a 1920s theatre show.

Although Dinah Littlewood did a splendid job of the jester's costume for Aperitivo Performance Group's mummies' play two years ago (complete with cap and bells and turn-up pointy shoes), she had never actually made a dress before. But there is something in the atmosphere of Aperitivo – the group is always enthusiastic to try new projects – and 24 hours after agreeing to 'help' create the costumes for Aperitivo's new production *The Beggar's Thruppence*, Dinah was downloading authentic 20s designs from the web and scouring the charity and Chinese shops for beauty on a budget. A week later she had taken over the project entirely and could talk of nothing other than beads and boas and lace trimmings. It would probably be more accurate to say that the project had taken her over entirely.

Dinah, who studied Art in her youth, says she approaches the designs from an artist's perspective and then tries to work out the practicalities – which she thinks is the wrong way round, but the only way she knows. She has greatly enjoyed learning about the 20s era, and discovering how clothes are made. Of course, because she is learning as she goes along, there has been a fair

amount of unpicking, and probably an unfair amount of stress!

Although Dinah has a 'cameo' part in the play, as Mrs. Slammekin – Madam of a brothel and picker up of unconsidered trifles (such as anything that isn't nailed down in the local shops) – she is more used to singing on stage than acting.

She sang her first solo in the church choir at 11 and has been taking leading voice roles ever since – including *West Side Story*, *Ruddigore* and a concert version of *The Mikado*. Last year she sang Dido in Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*.

Although there is a lot of singing in *The Beggar's Thruppence* – a merry tale of thieves and prostitutes revolving around the elegant, arrogant Mac the Knife – none of it is in the least 'operatic'. For this production Aperitivo wanted ordinary voices that fit the characters – the singing is more the sort of thing you would hear when the pubs are closing on a Saturday night.

Aperitivo's *The Beggar's Thruppence* will be performed at the Museum in São Brás on the 4th and 5th of June at 7.30pm and at the newly restored theatre in Messines, located at the Sociedade de Instrução e Recreio Messinense, on the 11th and 12th June at 8.00pm.

For more information contact admin@amigos-museu-sbras.org, tel. 966829073 for reservations, or visit the website of the Friends of the Museum at www.amigos-museu-sbras.org

for your taste buds is not an easy task: the reason why The Beer Spot's highly trained staff have an extensive knowledge of the products, providing helpful suggestions to ensure you drink the beer that meets your desires.

The fully structured franchise is a great investment opportunity for anyone looking to open a bar, with The Beer Spot offering a true 'key in hand' franchise. As soon as a location is purchased, The

Beer Spot takes care of everything, from licensing, architecture, project, stock, telecommunications, etc. All the new owner has to do is open the bar. "We have very good prices per square metre and offer unique franchising opportunities" said Mário Castro. For more information on The Beer Spot, either to purchase beer or to invest, please visit www.thebeerspot.pt, or call 289 508 828.



Acapella concert in Monchique

The soloists of 'Augsburger Domsingknaben' are presenting a concert of acapella group 'Unfassbar' in Monchique.

Six (former) soloists of this renowned choir of St. Mary Cathedral in Augsburg, Germany formed acapella group 'Unfassbar' and

will stage a concert on May 28th at 18.00hrs in the Vilafoia, Monchique.

Their repertoire ranges from Madrigals and Gospel to contemporary music. The singers of this young acapella group had their musical education in St. Mary's

Cathedral Choir. Besides the musical arrangement of masses, the choir has given various concerts abroad, e.g. Japan, Canada, South Africa and the Vatican (Sistine Chapel in December 2009)

Some of the soloists take part in operas in Munich, Strasbourg

and Rotterdam.

Admission €25 including buffet of 'Rezeptschmiede Monchique'.

For reservation and further information please contact Rute Cabaceira at 282910 110, 910537 676, rc@vilafoia.com.

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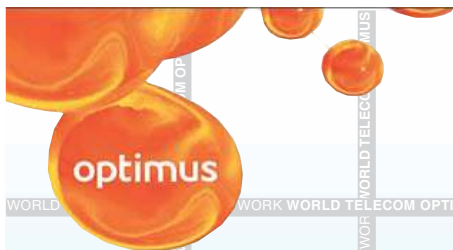
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Top 3 Operating Systems continued



Continuing from last week in which we looked at Windows 7 and Ubuntu 10.04. This week we look at Mac OS X Leopard

Mac OS X Leopard

Windows isn't for everyone and that's where Apple's Mac OS X Leopard operating system comes into play. Many users turned to Mac OS X when Windows Vista was released. There have been several improvements from Tiger to Leopard, including enhanced graphics and search features.

The biggest cons for Mac OS X Leopard are the slow installation on systems that just barely meet the minimum system requirements and compatibility issues with some earlier applications. Some bugs have been fixed by Apple, however. In order to install Mac OS X Leopard, you must have an Intel G5 Mac, a PowerPC G5 Mac or a PowerPC G4 Mac with an 867 MHz or faster processor. At least 512 MB of RAM is recommended.

For users of earlier versions of Mac OS X, the look may appear slightly different. However, the changes are still similar enough so users will have little problem using the system. The Dock now organizes items in a more transparent format and icons can be viewed as a grid in addition to the list format.

Finding files is much easier with the advanced Finder and Search For features. Another wonderful feature of Mac OS X Leopard is Cover Flow. By simply holding down the arrow key, you can shuffle through files and folders. Pair this with Quick Look and you can preview most files quickly and easily along with a set of options on how to use and open the file. Photos and other images can be turned into a slide show with just a few clicks.

If you are a multi-tasker, Mac OS X Leopard may be the operating system that's best for you. Instead of having countless windows cluttering your taskbar, Mac OS X Leopard organizes open windows into groups, called Spaces. You can group any open windows related to a project or idea into a single Space, creating a single window icon, instead of multiple ones.

Backing up data is incredibly easy with Mac OS X Leopard's Time Machine. The only

downside to Time Machine is that you must have an external hard drive in order to back up data. You cannot backup data to your internal hard drive, even temporarily.

For social butterflies, you can share your desktop with other Mac OS X Leopard users via iChat. You can also record sessions, fully customize your look and screen and share files and applications through iChat. Anyone who hates using Internet Explorer can relax since Safari is the default browser. Loads of features are included by default to make your browsing experience better than ever before such as Web Clips and access to Wikipedia from your Desktop.

Security has been enhanced in Mac OS X Leopard, which is now comparable to features included in Windows 7. The biggest problem is the firewall, which you must turn on manually. However, this is more than made up for by Sandboxing, which helps prevent outside access to your applications, and stricter parental controls.

Apple has released an upgrade to Leopard, called Snow Leopard. At first glance, there seems to be nothing new with Snow Leopard. Aside from minor tweaks in the user interface, there are no new programs or new capabilities introduced. There seems to be no reason to spend the extra few euro's to upgrade from Leopard to Snow Leopard even if it's quite cheap.

Looking deeper into these two, you will find that the change in the OS is not in the aesthetics but in its core. Snow Leopard is coded to take advantage of the processing power that has been available since Apple moved to the PC architecture. Multi core processing and high amounts of RAM have been largely untapped with the Leopard OS and Apple moved to utilize the untapped power. Benchmarks on the system and its native applications resulted in very significant gains.

There are even a lot of side by side comparisons that shows just how fast the Snow Leopard operating system is.

The speed increase doesn't really translate very well with all programs that run on Snow Leopard. Programs like Photoshop do not show any markable gain in performance. This is attributed to the code in these programs. They were originally written for Leopard and were not yet rewritten to exploit the advantages provided by Snow Leopard. This problem will probably be addressed once the makers of these third party programs release optimized code for their programs.

It might not be such a good idea to upgrade since there are still very few programs that take advantage of what Snow Leopard has to offer. But considering that it only costs €30.00 to get the upgrade from Leopard to Snow Leopard, it might be worth it to



Mac OS X Snow Leopard

The world's most advanced operating system. Finely tuned.

upgrade just for the performance improvements and fixes in the native applications.

Honorable Mention: Windows XP

Windows XP is the operating system Microsoft originally thought would be replaced by Windows Vista. However, users quickly discovered that Windows XP was more compatible with existing hardware and software than Windows Vista. Due to security issues and hardware compatibility issues, Windows XP remained Windows users' fa-

vorite Windows operating system.

With the introduction of Windows 7, many Windows XP users are upgrading. Support for Windows XP officially ends in 2010, but any existing updates can be downloaded from Microsoft.com. Due to its availability of security updates and patches, ease of use and compatibility with most software and hardware currently available, Windows XP must at least be an honorable mention when mentioning desktop operating systems.



Kurt Pardon • I.T. Director
BlueChipIT part of the
Portugal News Group
info@bluechip-it.com
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NORTH**DAILY****CALDAS DA RAINHA**

Museu José Malhoa - Paintings, sculptures, drawings, watercolours and ceramics on temporary and permanent exhibitions - Parque D. Carlos I - T. 262 831 984

CALDAS DA RAINHA

Municipal Museum - Since 1985 the construction of António Duarte Atelier and Museum, the Local Council of Caldas da Rainha has been constructing one of the most important nucleus of Portuguese Sculpture of the 20th century. The exhibit, conservation, study and divulgation of the collections is divided in the three museums - T. 262 840 280

GUARDA

Museu Municipal de Arte Moderna Abel Manta - The collection includes works by Carlos Botelho, Júlio Resende, Menez, Paula Rego, Vespertino, António Dacosta and many others - Open: Tuesday to Sunday from 10h00 to 12h30 and from 14h00 to 17h00 - Free entrance - Rua Direita, 45, Gouveia - T. 238 493 648

PORTO

Casa da Música - Guided visits from Mon-Sun: 10h30; 11h30; 12h30; 15h00; 16h00; 17h00; 18h00 - Tickets can be bought until 10 minutes before visit - Price: €2; Free for children under 12 - T. 220 120 214 - Avenida da Boavista, 604-610 - www.casada musica.com

PORTO

Serralves Foundation - Visits to the exhibitions - Sat: 17h-20h; Sun: 12h-13h - to the architectonic spaces (museum e casa de serralves) Sun: 15h-16h - Visits to the park; Sun: 11h-12h - Visits are free on the purchase of an entrance ticket to the museum - Location: Rua D. João de Castro, 210 - T. 226 156 584 - www.serralves.pt

May 15**PORTO**

Clubbing Optimus Maio 2010 with Gil Scott-Heron - 23h00 - Casa da Música - T. 220 120 214 - Avenida da Boavista, 604-610 - www.casada musica.com

www.theportuguese.com**Until May 26****CALDAS DA RAINHA**

Spring Gifts Ceramic Workshops - Museu de Cerâmica (1st session) Centro de Artes (2nd session) - Tue & Wed: 10h00 - 12h00 / 14h30 - 16h30 - Contacts: 262 840 540 (Rita Elias Sáez) - Centro de Artes on Rua Dr. Ilídio Amado - T. 262 840 540 F. 262 840 549 - centro.artes@cm-caldas-rainha.pt

May 28**GUIMARÃES**

Concert by Leo Cavalcanti - Café Concerto de Centro Cultural Vila Flor - T. 253 424 700

PORTO

Exhibition '2013' by Diogo Evangelista - Galeria 111 - Rua D. Manuel II, 246 - Open Monday to Friday from 10h00 to 12h30 and from 15h00 to 19h30 (Closed Monday and Saturday mornings; Closed Sundays and public holidays) - T. 226 093 279 - info@111.pt - www.111.pt

PORTO

Drawings, Sketches and Illustrations by Luis Buchinho at Galeria Dama Afrita - Dama Afrita Art Gallery - Rua da Picaria, nº 84 in Porto - Open from Monday to Friday from 15h00 to 19h00 - T. 927 203 858 - www.damaafrita.com - www.luisbuchinho.pt

GUIMARÃES

Slimmy presents his new album 'Be Someone Else' - Café Concerto de Centro Cultural Vila Flor - T. 253 424 700

Until June 6**GUARDA**

Minigolf at Urban Park 'Rio Diz' (next to the children's playground) - 9 courses for all who want to try this game

Until June 13**PORTO**

Exhibition by Lourdes Castro and Manuel Zimbro: A Luz da Sombra' (Shadow Light) - Serralves Museum - Rua D. João de Castro, 210 - T. 226 156 584

www.theportuguese.com**CENTRE****Daily****CASCAIS**

Cascais Cultural Centre - Concerts, shows, exhibitions, & other events. - shops, coffee shop & terrace - Open: 10h00-18h00 (Closed Mon) - Av. Rei Humberto II de Itália - T. 214 848 900

ESTORIL

Casino Estoril - Praça José Teodoro dos Santos - T. 214 667 700 - Info.estoril@estoril-sol.com

LISBON

Mercado da Ribeira - On the riverfront, this popular market is the Coolest Place in Town - Crafts, events, gastronomy • Av. 24 de Julho National Coach Museum Set in a 17th century riding school, with a varied collection of royal coaches, uniforms and portraits of the royal family - Open from 10h00 to 17h30 (Closed Mondays) and public holidays) - Praça Afonso de Albuquerque - T. 213610850

LISBON

Oceanarium - Spectacular design by Peter Chermayeff, it is one of Europe's biggest oceanarium - Park of Nations - 10h00 to 18h00 - T. 218 917 002

LISBON

Influxcontemporary - A museum dedicated to African Contemporary Art - Open from Wednesday to Saturday from 14h00 to 19h00 - Rua Fernando Vaz, 20B - T. 918 501 234 - www.influxcontemporary.com

May 15, 16**LISBON**

Dance Show 'Local Geographic' - Centro Cultural de Belém, Sala de Ensaios - Praça do Império - T. 213 612 400 - www.ccb.pt

May 15**SANTARÉM**

Dance Without Frontiers - Teatro Sá da Bandeira - Tickets: €10 - T. 911 512 152

LISBON

Wanda Stuart in concert - Oceanos Auditorium - Casino Lisboa - Alameda dos Oceanos - Park of Nations - T. 218 929 000

Until May 16**LISBON**

Walking with Dinosaurs The Live Experience - Sala Atlântico at Atlantic Pavilion - Tickets: See bottom of page

LISBON

Book Fair - Parque Eduardo VII - Daytime and Evening

LISBON

Béjart Ballet Lausanne / Ballet for Life - Original choreography by Maurice Béjart-Coliseus dos Recreios - May 13 to 15 at 21h30; May 16 at 16h00 - Rua das Portas de Stª Antão, 96 - T. 213 240 580

May 17 to Sep 19**LISBON**

Exhibition by the Brazilian brothers Gustavo and Otávio Pandolfo known as Os Gêmeos (The Twins) 'For who lives there, the sky is there' - Museu Coleção Berardo, Arte Moderna e Contemporânea - Praça do Império - T. 213 612 878

May 18 to 30**LISBON**

Bounce 'Streetdance Company - Classic hip-hop version - Oceanos Auditorium of Casino Lisboa

May 21 to May 30**LISBON**

Rock in Rio - Performing are artists like Shakira, Elton John, Muse, Miley Cyrus, Amy MacDonald, D'ZRT - Tickets: See bottom of page

May 27 & 29**LISBON**

Concert by Gulbenkian Orchestra - Grand Auditorium - Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation - Ave. de Berna 45A - T. 217 823 000 - www.gulbenkian.pt

Until May 29**LISBON**

Exhibition by Diogo Evangelista - Galeria 111 in Lisbon, situated on Campo Grande, nº 113 - T. 217 819 907 - www.111.pt

www.theportuguese.com**SOUTH****Daily****LAGOS**

Charity Shop in Amadena Charity Shop in what was old supermarket on the square past 'Brody' and 'O Poço' restaurants - LAPS - Lagos Animal Protection Society - T. 282 687 334

Wed & Thu**SILVES**

Exhibition of artwork by Hilary Cunningham - Vivenda Rosal Padmeira - Ts. 282 332 190 & 917 169 053

Until May 15**LAGOA**

12th Lagoa Choral Week - Municipal Auditorium

TAVIRA

Sculptures and Drawings by Rui Sanches - Tavira Municipal Museum/Palácio da Galeria - T. 281 320 540

May 15**FERRAGUDO**

Bingo Night - Bar Chaminés, The Square - 19h30 - Hot & Cold Buffet, 1/ Bot wine, € 9.50 P.P

May 15 & 16**SILVES**

Live Music at Café Inglês on the steps of the Castle - 15th at 20h30: Jazz Café - 16th at 15h00: Walking Free - T. 282 442 585

May 15 to June 24**ALMANCEL**

Painting Exhibition by the renowned Spanish artist Juan Martinez at Centro Cultural São Lourenço - T. 289 395 475 - ccs@iol.pt

May 16**PORTIMÃO**

Dianne Reeves returns to present her latest work 'When You Know' - Grand Auditorium of Teatro Municipal - 21h30 - Tickets: €20 - T. 282 402 475

May 21**LAGOA**

Branca de Neve Teatro em Patins (Snow White Theatre on Skates) - 21h00 - 23h30 - Centro de Congressos do Arade - Encosta do Arade, Parchal - T. 282 498 577

LAGOA

Free Concert at Convento São José, Lagoa at 8pm - Cappella music given by 'One Voice', student choir from the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor in Belton, Texas USA - Rua Joaquim Eugénio Júdice - T. 282 380 434

Until May 22**LAGOS**

Exhibition 'Chamas de Inspiração' (Flames of Inspiration) by Kasia Wrona at Centro Cultural de Lagos - Rua Lançarote de Freitas, nº 7 - T. 282 770 450

May 22**LAGOA**

William Shakespeare's play 'Troilo & Crésida' by Joaquim Benite and Christian Ratz at the Municipal Auditorium in Lagoa - 12 years

For more events, see our Club and Community Pages - pp26-27 and our Classifieds - pp 58-62

TICKETS: Most tickets are available at FNAC and Worten outlets across the country, ATM machines, Abreu agencies, El Corte Inglés, Casa Viola, Ticketline or at the event itself on the night.
Websites: www.pavilhaoatlantico.pt / www.ticketline.pt / www.blueticket.pt / Phone numbers: Ticketline 707 234 234 / 707 700 000

old and over - Tickets: €6 - 21h30 - T. 282 380 473

TAVIRA

Summer Fair at the Mercado da Ribeira, from 10am until 1pm - Organised by the Tavira Fund Raisers in aid of the Canil São Francisco, Loulé - Stalls will include home made cakes, pastries, jams, chutneys, hand made cards, herbs and spices, second hand books, cloths, bric-a-brac, jewellery and paintings. Donations of good quality clothes and bric-a-brac wanted - Contact Pat on T. 281 323 493.

Until May 23**ÉVORA**

Exhibition by Paula Rego 'The Manuel de Brito Collection' - Fórum Eugénio d'Almeida - T. 266 748 300

QUARTEIRA

Painting Exhibition by João Espada - Art Gallery Praça do Mar

May 26 & 29**ALMANCEL**

Concert by Katya Appekisheva (piano) and Jack Liebeck (violin) at Centro Cultural São Lourenço - T. 289 395 475 - www.centrocultural saoulourenco.com

Until May 27**LOULÉ**

Exhibition by Jessica Dunn - Chá d'Arte - D. Pedro I Square, nº 5-6, Ground Floor - T. 933 547 291

May 29**OLHÃO**

Concert by Nuno Guerreiro at the Municipal Auditorium at 21h30 - T. 289 710 170

Until May 31**SÃO BRÁS DE ALPORTEL**

Exhibition 'Between Mountains and Fountains' by Manuel de Sousa Teodoro - Municipal Art Gallery of S. Brás de Alportel - Avenida da Liberdade (next to São Brás Cine Theatre - 10h-13h / 16h-19h - Ts. 289 841 959 / 289 840 000

Until June 13**ÉVORA**

Exhibition 'Oriental Weapons. Rituals of Power' - Jorge Caravana's Collection - Évora Museum - T. 266 702 604

PADERNE

Exhibition 'From Russia with dove' by Svetlana Kurmaz - Galeria Corte-Real, Bistrot des Z'Artes (Open for dinner every night except Tuesday), 19h00 until 22.30; 919 407 366) - Galeria Corte-Real is signposted from Boliqueime, Ferreiras and Paderne - open from: Thu-Sun, 11h00-17h00 - Ts. 918 980 199 or 912 737 762

Until June 25**SINES**

Exhibition of the Sines Museum archaeological collections - Sines Museum - Organization: Museu de Sines - T. 269 632 237 - www.sines.pt

Until July 31**SERPA**

Exhibition 'Relógios mecânicos de 1910 a 1970' (Mechanical Clocks from 1910 to 1970) - Museu do Relógio (Clock Museum) - T. 284 543 194

Events may be cancelled, delayed or fail to live up to their billing. Send us your events to copy@theportuguese.com by Tuesday before publication.

PREVIEW

Loja F, 8600-764 Lagos - T. 282 782078

December 10 - Finally in Portugal LADY GAGA on her 'Monster Ball Tour' - 20h30 at Pavilhão Atlântico, Lisbon - Limited places, book now! - Ticket for Standing Arena (in front of stage) & Return bus transport from the Algarve - €105.00 per person - Ticket for Balcony 2 & transport €85.00 - PDM TRAVEL - Rua Vitor Costa e Silva 15 info@pdm-travel.com

**May 14 to June 9**

Solo Exhibition by São Nunes 'In Memoriam' at the Galeria Santo António in Monchique - The exhibition is in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the birth of Jorge Peixinho - Times of the Gallery: Tuesday from 12h00 to 19h00, Wednesday to Friday, from 12h00 to 16h00, Sundays from 12h00 to 16h00 - Ts. 282 913 130 / 925 004 051 - www.artealgarve.net

May 14 - Wonderful new exhibition 'Sombras e Luz, O Século XIX no Algarve' (Shadows and Light, The 19th Century in Algarve) is being inaugurated this Friday, 14th May at 6 p.m. in S. Brás de Alportel museum, Museu do Traço, situated on Rua Dr. José Dias Sancho 61, the outgoing São Brás/Tavira road - Everyone interested in local history is invited to experience an interesting, sensual walk through time - T. 289 840 100



May 22 - The Orquestra do Algarve will perform in Estóil (Faro) at the Matrix Church at 21h30 - The orchestra will interpret on the 1st Part of the concert W.A. Mozart's (1756-1791) Horn Concerto No. 4 in E flat Major (K.495), I. Allegro Moderato, II. Romanza, III. Rondo-Allegro Vivace - 2nd Part: L.V. Beethoven's (1770-1827) Symphony No. 3 in f flat E Major, Op. 55 (Eroica), I. Allegro con brio, II. Marcia Funebre, III. Scherzo-Q Allegro vivace, IV. Finale-Allegro molto - Conductor: Osvaldo Ferreira; Soloist: Todd Sheldrick (Horn)

ALGARVE

SBC
FORUM ALGARVE
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13 MAY-19 MAY



1
Kick-Ass
Aaron Johnson, Nicolas Cage
16.35-19.10-21.45 (00.20 Fri & Sat)
Urmel aus dem Eis
Animation PV
(10.10-12.25 Sat & Sun) 14.30
2
I Love You Phillip Morris
Jim Carrey, Ewan McGregor
14.00-16.20-18.40-21.00 (23.30 Fri & Sat)
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs
Animation PV
(10.20 Sat & Sun)
3
Clash of the Titans
Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
(12.30 Sat & Sun) 14.50-17.10-19.30-21.50 (00.25 Fri & Sat)
4
Iron Man 2
Robert Downey Jr, Don Cheadle
(10.50-13.30 Sat & Sun) 16.10-18.50-21.30 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
5
Robin Hood
Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett
(10.00-12.55 Sat & Sun) 15.40-18.25-21.10 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
6
Date Night
Steve Carell, Tina Fey
(13.00 Sat & Sun) 17.20-21.40 (23.50 Fri & Sat)
A Single Man
Colin Firth, Julianne Moore
15.05-19.25
7
The Bounty Hunter
Gerard Butler, Jennifer Aniston
14.05-16.30-18.55-21.20 (23.45 Fri & Sat)
The Princess and the Frog
Animation PV
(10.30 Sat & Sun)
8
How to Train Your Dragon
Animation PV
(11.00-13.15 Sat & Sun)
Lebanon
Reymond Amsalem, Oshri Cohen
15.30-17.40-19.50-22.00 (00.15 Fri & Sat)
9
The Last Song
Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth
(11.55 Sat & Sun) 14.10-18.50-21.05
Dear John
Channing Tatum, Amanda Seyfried
16.25
Green Zone
Matt Damon, Greg Kinnear
(23.40 Fri & Sat)

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13 MAY-19 MAY



1
Iron Man 2
Robert Downey Jr, Don Cheadle
13.05-15.45-18.30-21.20 (23.50 Fri & Sat)

2
Clash of the Titans 3D
Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
13.10-16.10-18.35-21.35 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
3
Urmel aus dem Eis
Animation PV
13.20-16.00-18.00
The Last Song
Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth
21.00 (23.30 Fri & Sat)
4
How to Train Your Dragon 3D
Animation PV
13.40-16.30-18.45
Date Night
Steve Carell, Tina Fey
21.45 (23.55 Fri & Sat)
5
The Blind Side
Sandra Bullock, Quinton Aaron
12.50-15.30-18.10-21.05 (23.40 Fri & Sat)
6
The Bounty Hunter
Gerard Butler, Jennifer Aniston
13.30-16.20-18.50-21.40 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
7
Robin Hood
Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett
12.45-15.35-18.25-21.15 (00.05 Fri & Sat)
8
Robin Hood
Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett
13.00-15.50-18.40-21.30 (00.20 Fri & Sat)
9
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus
Heath Ledger, Johnny Depp
12.55-15.40-18.15-21.10 (23.45 Fri & Sat)

CASTELLO LOPES CINEMAS
PORTIMÃO
TEL: 707 220 220
13 MAY-19 MAY

1
Robin Hood
Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett
13.00-15.50-18.40-21.30 (00.15 Fri & Sat)
2
The Bounty Hunter
Gerard Butler, Jennifer Aniston
13.40-16.10-19.00-21.40 (00.05 Fri & Sat)
3
Clash of the Titans
Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
13.50-16.20-19.10-21.50 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
4
How to Train Your Dragon
Animation PV
13.20-15.20-17.30-19.40
Tony Manero
Alfredo Castro, Paola Lattus
22.00 (00.20 Fri & Sat)
5
Iron Man 2
Robert Downey Jr, Don Cheadle
13.30-16.00-18.50-21.20 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
6
The Blind Side
Sandra Bullock, Quinton Aaron
13.10-15.40-18.30-21.10 (23.50 Fri & Sat)



Synopsis: The story of the legendary figure known by generations as *Robin Hood*, whose exploits have endured in popular mythology and ignited the imagination of those who share his spirit of adventure and righteousness. In 13th century England, Robin Hood, an expert archer and his band of marauders confront corruption and crippling taxation in a small town and challenge the crown to alter the balance of power between the king and all of his subjects. In Nottingham, Robin falls for the spirited widow Lady Marion, a woman sceptical of the identity and motivations of this crusader from the forest. And whether outlaw or hero, one man from humble beginnings will become an eternal symbol of freedom for his people.

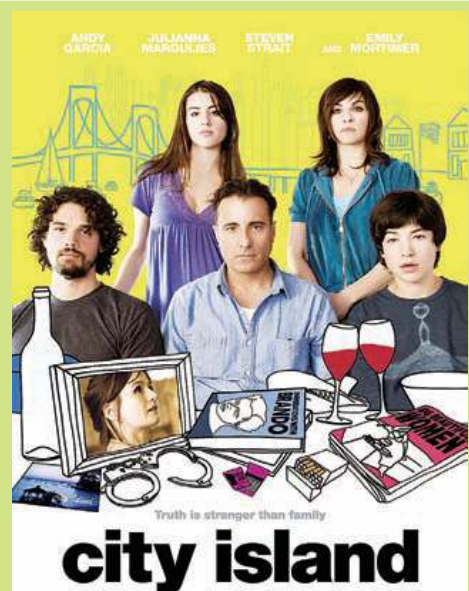
Title: Robin Hood
Genre: Action | Drama
Stars: Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett, Max von Sydow, Mark Strong, William Hurt, Mark Addy, Matthew Macfadyen
Director: Ridley Scott



ROBIN HOOD



Title: City Island
Genre: Comedy | Drama
Stars: Andy Garcia, Julianna Margulies, Emily Mortimer, Alan Arkin, Steven Strait
Synopsis: A tale about a family whose comfortable co-existence is upended by surprising revelations of past secrets and present day lies. Vince Rizzo is a lifelong resident of the tiny, tradition-steeped Bronx enclave of City Island. A family man who makes his living as a corrections officer, Vince longs to become an actor. Ashamed to admit his aspirations to his family, Vince would rather let his fiery wife Joyce believe his weekly poker games are a cover for an extramarital affair than admit he's secretly taking acting classes in Manhattan. When Vince is asked to reveal his biggest secret in class, he inadvertently sets off a chaotic chain of events that turns his mundane suburban life upside down.



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OV = Original Version
PV = Portuguese Version

Film Classification

Robin Hood - M/12
City Island - M/12
9 (Nine) - M/12
The Bounty Hunter - M/12
Iron Man 2 - M/12
I Love You Phillip Morris - M/12
Kick-Ass - M/12
Urmel aus dem Eis - M/6
Clash of the Titans - M/12
The Last Song - M/12
Date Night - M/12
How to Train Your Dragon - M/6

M/4 - Four years and over
M/6 - Six years and over
M/12 - 12 years and over
M/16 - 16 years and over
M/18 - 18 years and over

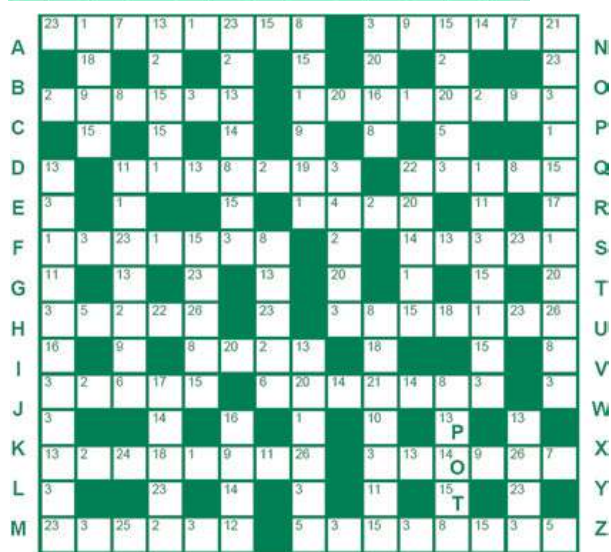
Hard



Q	E	A	S	T	R	E	S	P	A	S
U	X	T	W	O	K	L	P			
A	P	P	L	A	M	P	L	I	F	I
R	L	L	A	X	E	L	B	I	G	
T	W	O	I	Y	D	E	L	L	I	G
E	O	S	R	A	I	I				
T	E	E	T	H	I	N	G			
V	R	N	A	E	I	C				
J	O	K	I	N	E	T	E	C		
K	E	B	O	Z	P	P	O			
C	E	L	E	S	T	I	A	L	I	A
L	I	A	T	R	I	T	S	I	U	E
A	L	S	A	T	R	O	S	S	T	U
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W	O	L	D	A	S	P	E	T	E	

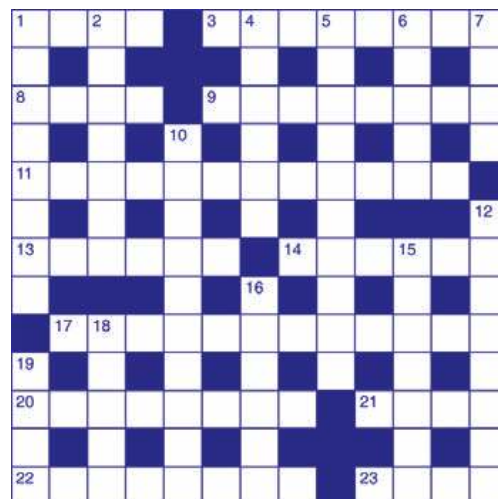
Last weeks solutions:

7	6	1	9	8	5	3	2	4	5	4	2	7	6	8	1	9	3	6	9	8	5	1	2	7	3	4
2	4	5	1	6	3	7	8	9	8	6	7	1	9	3	2	5	4	3	1	4	6	7	9	2	8	5
9	3	8	4	7	2	5	6	1	9	1	3	5	2	4	8	6	7	2	5	7	8	4	3	1	6	9
4	7	3	2	5	8	1	9	6	6	7	4	2	3	5	9	8	1	1	2	3	7	9	8	4	5	6
5	1	2	6	9	7	4	3	8	2	3	8	6	1	9	7	4	5	8	7	5	2	6	4	3	9	1
6	8	9	3	1	4	2	5	7	1	9	5	4	8	7	3	2	6	9	4	6	1	3	5	8	7	2
3	5	7	8	4	9	6	1	2	7	2	6	9	5	1	4	3	8	4	8	2	9	5	7	6	1	3
1	9	4	5	2	6	8	7	3	4	8	9	3	7	6	5	1	2	5	3	1	4	8	6	9	2	7
8	2	6	7	3	1	9	4	5	3	5	1	8	4	2	6	7	9	7	6	9	3	2	1	5	4	8



I	U	Q	U	A	D	R	U	P	L	E	T	M	H	E
R	E	M	I	T	Y	D	W	D	W	S	N	A	D	G
Q	Y	D	O	E	B	C	I	M	T	O	V	C	E	A
E	P	U	Q	Z	U	S	A	A	R	P	S	E	D	G
S	N	C	L	S	Q	S	T	U	Q	P	J	I	E	T
E	U	J	N	U	S	E	O	L	Y	O	V	M	T	R
L	M	E	I	A	C	T	X	T	R	F	E	I	R	O
T	L	E	C	R	N	K	D	V	F	L	G	F	E	M
S	T	R	A	O	O	U	T	L	I	N	E	A	C	C
E	E	F	C	C	O	E	Q	F	I	C	F	J	N	P
R	T	S	R	A	U	I	N	T	M	K	C	T	O	E
T	T	I	C	S	J	I	E	P	N	G	T	H	C	F
C	N	L	S	K	Q	N	A	R	E	M	A	C	S	J
G	E	I	S	O	J	W	E	T	A	R	Y	G	I	E
S	S	E	L	D	A	E	H	T	R	A	Y	X	D	B

ACROSS



1. Foundation (4)
3. Wedlock (8)
8. Kiln (4)
9. Imagine (8)
11. Wonder (12)
13. Grain (6)
14. Place of worship (6)
17. Self-contradictory (12)
20. Not spoken (8)
21. Quote (4)
22. Seclusion (8)
23. Minus (4)

DOWN

1. Cheerfulness (8)
2. Refuge (7)
4. Excite (6)
5. Repay (10)
6. Foreign (5)
7. Pitcher (4)
10. Opponent (10)
12. Agitated (8)
15. Exact (7)
16. Climb (6)
18. Nautical (5)
19. Ado (4)

Two free entry tickets to the International Algarve Fair will be sent to the sender of the first correct solution to crossword n° 1061 opened next Thursday. Solutions to: The Portugal News Crossword N° 1061, Apt. 13, 8401-901 Lagoa. Be sure to enclose your name, address and phone number.

See if you can find 6 differences between the two photos.



Last week's solutions

Across: 1 Pleasurable; 9 Lattice; 10 Rayon; 11 Bleat; 12 Sweater; 13 Expire; 15 Assert; 18 Gainsay; 20 Ahaft; 22 State; 23 Tripped; 24 Temperament.

Down: 2 Lithe: 3

Down; 2 Line; 3 Aviator; 4 Uneasy; 5 L
Layette; 7 Flabbergast; 8 Ingratitu
Primate; 16 Stadium; 17 Oyster; 19 S
Aspen.

Last weeks winner: Mrs Ennew, Laags



Last week's solution:

PROPERTY

A weekly guide to the latest and the best properties on the market in Portugal • The Portugal News • 15 May 2010

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

Live the life of luxury in Vilamoura



This week's featured property is located in the Colinas do Golfe area of Vilamoura, near the Millennium Golf course, nestled amongst several high end properties and offering fantastic, uninterrupted views to the nearby golf course and into the sea.

The property has a beautiful layout with plenty of open spaces and natural sunlight soaking in through the glass skylight, located in the centre of the house.

Through the entrance and to the right is a kitchen, fitted with granite worktops and an 'island' style table in the middle of the room for quick breakfasts. It is fully equipped, has beautiful wooden cabinets and is adjoined by a laundry room further to the right.

In front of the kitchen is the dining room, with sliding doors

looking out to the pool area of the house. This room is of good size and is in an open layout with the spacious lounge. Once again, natural light is one of the most noticeable features of this room as the lounge receives light from three sets of sliding doors, as well as from the skylight on the other side of the room, which has a beautiful mature garden growing in it. Marble floors keep the house cool during the summer with the fireplace and central heating keeping it warm during the colder months.



To the left of the entrance of the house are the bedrooms, two upstairs and two on ground level, all en-suite and with quality wooden laminate floors. Underneath the staircase is a guest bathroom. The bedrooms on ground level are moderate in size, have two single beds each and built in wardrobes, both with access to the garden of the house.

Things improve considerably upstairs, as two massive bedrooms cover a huge area, with both having access to a wonderful patio, which offers unique views of the sea, Vilamoura and the golf course. The bathrooms for these bedrooms are also supersized, with both a bathtub and a hydro massage shower, two sinks and heated towel rails. Once more these bedrooms have the same laminate wooden flooring, keeping the rooms cosy and neat.

The outdoor area of the house is equally impressive, with a lovely barbeque near the large pool area.

The property also has an impressive garden and a covered garage. This property has just appeared on the market and is being sold for €1.6million.

For more information please call Soraia Santos on +351-962014793 or email ssantos@remax.pt.



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 <p>urbinvest Estate Agents - Mediação Imobiliária AMI 769</p> <p>Av. Tivoli - Aldeia do Mar 8125 Vilamoura Office Phone (+351) 289 389 393 Mobile (+351) 919 447 735 Email info@urbinvest.net</p> <p>www.urbinvest.net</p>	<p>Vilamoura</p>  <p>2 Bedroom apartment totally refurbished, new plumbing, closed terrace, equipped kitchen. BBQ and private parking. The condominium offers a pleasant garden and swimming pool.</p> <p>Ref.: 2808 € 143.500</p>	<p>Vilamoura</p>  <p>Wonderful 2 bedroom semi detached villa in a secure condominium, with large garden and swimming pool, located in central Vilamoura in a quiet accessible location. Sold furnished.</p> <p>Ref.: 2979 € 360.000</p>	<p>Vilamoura</p>  <p>Beautiful 3 bedroom duplex villa located in prime area of Vilamoura. The Villa has yet to patio, garden, pool and carport for one car. Sold furnished and equipped.</p> <p>Ref.: 2974 € 425.000</p>	<p>Vilamoura</p>  <p>Exclusive luxury large two bed south facing apartment in the five star Golf and Spa Resort Hilton Hotel. Offers all modern furnishings and facilities within the resort, gym, pools, discounts within the Hotel.</p> <p>Ref.: 2966 € 475.000</p>	<p>VILAMOURA BUSINESS CENTER</p> <p>Your prestigious Office in the Algarve</p> <p>A new business culture, providing business people flexibility and convenience, making easy to do business in Algarve.</p> <p>Postal prestigious addresses & Company domiciliation.</p> <p>Business Address - Virtual offices services.</p> <p>Furnished offices & Meeting rooms.</p> <p>Multilingual reception</p> <p>From € 55.00 per month</p> <p>Info: (+351) 917559944 www.vilamourabusinesscenter.com</p>
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Magnificent 1 bedroom apartment, in the privat condominium Balaia Golf Village in Albufeira. Gardens, swimming pools, tennis courts and a golf course all in the same condominium. A few minutes from the beach. Feel the difference, BOOK YOUR VISIT!
Ref.: 122261080-14
Price: € 900 month (Long term rental)



Vale Parra
Excellent town house w/ very good areas in Condominium da Parra, only 1,32 Miles from Galé beach. Ground floor: Entrance hall, kitchen, living room & storage room. 1st floor: 3 bedrooms (1 en suite), 1 bath and 2 balconies. A sunny backyard w/ BBQ & common garden w/ a large swimming pool.
Ref.: 122261080-5
Price: € 245.000

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Albufeira**

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from 2:00 pm until 6. pm.**

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Ref.: 122261080-3
Price: € 445.000

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- Aptm. 140m², top floor

Ref. A1330
Price: € 495.000



Bensafrim, Lagos

- Cottage, apt, B&B rooms
- Holiday rental & camping
- Other rooms to develop
- Total 9 beds, 5 baths
- Pool, barbecue, garden
- Bldgs. 540m² plot 2.4ha

Ref. C1293
Price Reduced: € 345.000



São Brás de Alportel

- Restored character prop.
- Main cott. + guest cott.
- Total 4 beds. 3 baths
- Pool 8m x 4m, BBQ, store
- Garden, pond, terraces
- Cott. 150m² plot 1.100m²

Ref. C1332
Price: € 325.000



Monchique

- Exceptional Manor House
- Beautiful nature area
- Eco friendly property
- 4 bedrooms 2 bathrooms
- Natural pool, lake, garden
- Villa 317m² plot 5 ha.

Ref. V1326
Price: € 945.000



Loulé

- Attractive spacious villa
- Country & sea views
- 4 bedrooms 3 bathrooms
- Large covered terraces
- Pool 10 x 5, BBQ, garden
- Villa 285m² plot 1.420m²

Ref. V1339
Price: € 695.000



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VILAMOURA

Ref. A72016

Top floor studio apartment excellently located on a complex w/ garden, sw. pool & BBQ area. Quiet area only 15 mins walk to prestigious Vilamoura Marina & beach. 60 sq.m. constr. area. Spectacular panoramic views over Vilamoura. Furnished & equipped. South facing.

Price: € 89.000



QUARTEIRA

Ref. A102704

Two bedroom apartment located close to the beach in Quarteira, approx. 3/4 minutes walk. Constructed area of 97 sq.m. Fully fitted kitchen. Pantry. Living room with 31 sq.m. Two bathrooms. Pre installed for air conditioning. Underground parking space for one car.

Price: € 160.000



VILAMOURA

Ref. V82199

Centrally located in residential area of Vilamoura three bedroom detached villa. Basement w/ another en-suite bedroom, & large living room w/ fireplace and a kitchen. Furnished and equipped. Central heating. Air conditioning. Alarm system. Fabulous landscaped garden with enclosed jacuzzi and BBQ area. 10 minutes walk from the Marina & beach.

Price: € 495.000



VILAMOURA

Ref. A71879

Two bedroom apartment converted into three bedrooms. Condominium w/ garden & communal pool. Excellently located just 100 metres from Marina & close to beach, approx. 2 min. walk. Constr. area of 90 sq.m. Fully fitted kitchen. Air conditioning. Private parking space for two cars.

Price: € 189.900

AMI licence 7673



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Ref: 837 - € 99.000

One bed apt in the town of Cacela, air conditioning, equipped kitchen and 3 verandas. Sunny position great for holidays.



Ref: 675 - € 115.000

Two shops for the price of one, 500m from the beach of Manta Rota each shop has toilets and is 41.70m2.

LOW PRICES



Ref: 567 - € 118.500

Two bed large apartment in a condominium with shared pool. Fully furnished and equipped with air con and satellite.



Ref: 980 - € 185.000

Three bed semi detached cottage, is equipped with air con and has a fireplace. Very close to facilities and beach of Manta Rota.



Pots of style



If your terracotta pots took a hammering over the winter months and you ended up with a pile of crocks from broken, frost-damaged containers, it may be time to invest in a new batch. Hannah Stephenson gives her suggestions.

Manufacturers have made great strides over the years to make stylish pots which will withstand the worst of the weather and still look good.

In recent years, garden centres have been flooded with metal containers in both shiny and matt or weathered finishes, along with synthetic pots made from moulded resins which look like granite, stone or terracotta and won't cost you an arm and a leg.

There are pros and cons for all pots. If you go for unglazed clay, the pots will be porous and therefore plant-friendly, carrying air to the plant roots. They are also heavy, thus keeping large or top heavy plantings stable.

However, unglazed terracotta absorbs water from the planting compost, so the plants will need watering more frequently and, as many of you will have discovered after the snow, will crack and break in frosty weather unless they are protected from the elements.

Metal pots - zinc and titanium are now popular - look great in contemporary settings, with their sharp lines and eye-catching sparkle, but they don't do well in sunny situations as the containers quickly heat up and can damage the roots of the

plants. You can, however, get around the problem by placing the plant in a different container and then putting that inside the metal one, adding damp compost or shredded bark into the metal pot, which will then act as insulation against the heat.

Natural wood planters are widely available in soft and hardwoods and blend well with plant material. They are not affected by frost and are light and relatively inexpensive. Look at sets of barrel shaped planters. The disadvantage of wood is that if it is left untreated, the life of the container will be short. They will last longer if you line them with thick plastic sheeting.

Many gardeners would balk at the thought of buying a plastic pot, but today there are many good ones out there which really don't look plastic and you can paint the pot with a metallic finish to give it a contemporary feel. Plastic is light, cheap and you can drill as many drainage holes as you like.

Good options include Sankey's range of recycled plastic pots which look like granite (www.rsankey.com).

The disadvantage is that over time many plastic containers go brittle, especially if placed in direct sun, and the roots have little protection from winter cold.

A more convincing fake is resin, which is also light but can look like stone, granite or terracotta and is resistant to frost and heat. For me, it's probably the best option if you want a good look but don't want the hassle of having to lift heavy stone or terracotta containers.

For those with contemporary tastes, fake metal is also available. Check out faux aluminium Geo pots at www.crocus.co.uk in a variety of shapes, which are made of fibreglass and resin, are lightweight, low-maintenance and frost-proof. Ask for drill holes to be made when you place your order.

Of course, if you manage to visit an architectural salvage yard, this could be an Aladdin's cave of quirky containers to fit in with your setting.

So don't feel too bad about ditching your frost-damaged pots because there are plenty of stylish options out there to replace them.



Three ways to... deal with permanent container plants

1. Unless otherwise stated use half and half John Innes No. 2 potting compost and a soilless potting mix for containers.

2. Start off small specimens in small pots because if you put a small plant in a big pot its roots will be surrounded by too much wet compost and may rot.

3. Apply the appropriate slow-release fertiliser in spring to ensure healthy growth.





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apart for baby salad leaves, or 7.5cm (3in) apart if you want bigger leaves to cook. Keep sowing a new row every month during the sowing season and you should be harvesting until July. Good varieties include 'Bordeaux' and 'Mediana'. In high summer traditional spinach won't grow because it's too hot, although New Zealand spinach, a bushy, leafy veg, will thrive in poor soil and lots of sunshine.



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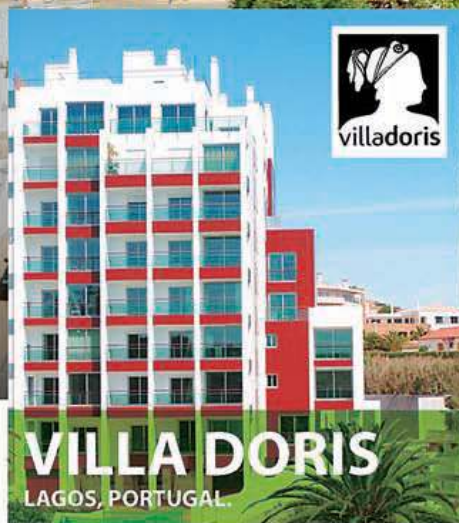
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Audi RS 5 Coupe raises the bar

With a rear-biased all-wheel drive system, a faster zero to 100kph time yet lower fuel consumption, and reduced CO2, the Audi RS 5 Coupe is not only more potent but also cleaner by some margin.

One hundred and eight thousand euros, there's no escaping it, it's a lot of money, and if you've got it to spend on a car you're going to be spoiled for choice. If high performance is your thing the options open to you are still wide.

If, however, you want a combination of power, four-seat practicality and all-weather capability suddenly you're left with only a handful to choose from.

You can pretty much rule out any BMW or Mercedes, while

ance.

For some the RS 4 was the turning point; after years of less than outstanding models, the car delivered in spades. Ride, handling, traction and engine all impressed. No pressure, then.

Audi's RS signature attributes remain with the RS 5: V8 petrol power, quattro all-wheel drive and affordability. With more power from its 4.2-litre engine (450 against the RS 4's 420) a faster zero to 100kph time (cut by .2 seconds) yet lower fuel consumption (8.96L/100km against

cific suspension changes over the current S5 model.

Factor in two large tailpipes, a suitably appropriate bodykit, speed activated bootlid spoiler, big wheels, chunky-looking yet supportive sports seats and a smattering of carbon trim and you've got all the ingredients to make a stunning performance coupe.

At this point the cynics will be waiting for the bad news. Sorry guys but this car really does hit the jackpot. Looking the part is an obvious plus, and the RS 5 follows this up with a polished performance.

Key to the car's ability to impress is they way it adapts to changing roads and surfaces. The drive select feature is no gimmick, and when left in the auto position the car is talented enough to demonstrate a balanced power delivery, intelligent gearshifts and a composed ride.

For most of the time this proves to be the ideal setting. Comfort softens everything up a touch and tames the car's otherwise vocal exhaust, making it great for discrete city driving.

Kicking it up a notch is the dynamic setting which, as you'd expect, sharpens responses and turns the volume up on that beefy V8 motor. The result is a more direct and focused driving experience; from sleeping giant when in comfort mode, the V8 barks and bellows its way up through the gears while the steering delivers a weightier feel. The car feels more agile, too.

Learning from the S4 and its advanced transmission, Audi has endowed the RS 5 with a rear-biased all-wheel drive system in a bid to inject more fun. The 60-40 split certainly makes the car feel more playful, and just for good measure the 'sport' rear differential and a self-locking centre unit

do a good job of fine tuning responses and sending more power to the front or rear when needed respectively.

You soon forget all about the technical gubbins when sat in the RS 5's supportive sports seat, though. It only takes a few kilometres for you to realise that you don't have to grapple with the car's steering or tire of its constant goading to get you to go faster. The sign of a well-sorted

performance car is its ability to behave in a relaxed manner at slow speeds, yet respond in kind when you want to go faster and harder away from the city limits.

The RS 5 will do all these things, plus you can also get two people in the back and a fair amount of clobber in its spacious boot. As far as high performance all-rounders go, the RS5 has raised the bar to new heights.

(Source: PA/TPN)



anything from Porsche will be too expensive so that's bye-bye 911. The all-weather stipulation really narrows down the field, leaving Nissan's highly acclaimed GT-R to duke it out with Audi's box-fresh RS 5 Coupe.

Both pack four-wheel drive and a serious amount of horsepower, but that's where the similarities end - the GT-R's PlayStation-generation character puts it firmly in the camp marked 'hardcore'.

It's not every day a new RS Audi variant appears, as the firm makes it a tradition that only one model is produced at any one time. We've just waved goodbye to the critically acclaimed RS 4, and the pressure is on the RS 5 to deliver an even stronger perform-

11.24L/100km) and reduced CO2 (252g/km against 324g/km), the RS 5 is not only more potent but also cleaner by some margin.

The muscular-looking RS5 also packs more technology than its predecessor. Standard fit is now a seven-speed dual clutch S-tronic gearbox, complete with paddle shifters. A specially tuned version of Audi's 'drive select' system is included, which allows the driver to switch between a comfort and dynamic mode plus an auto position. Transmission, engine, suspension and gearbox characteristics are changed accordingly, plus there's a custom setting for good measure when the optional navigation system is chosen. And that's not including the RS-spec



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Tenerife takes a trip upmarket



The infinity pool, Sensatori resort, Guia de Isora, Tenerife.



View of the pool and sea beyond the Sensatori resort, Tenerife.

Find out why there's more to Tenerife than cheap booze, 'full English' breakfasts and partying punters.

Sipping a margarita on a shady terrace fringed by palm trees, overlooking a vast expanse of crystal clear, glistening blue water, I could have been in the Caribbean, the Maldives or any number of exotic, far-flung destinations.

The bright pinks and purples of cascading bougainvillea, tropical cannas with big, blousy red and orange flowers plus banana plants bearing great hands of fruit underneath giant leaves all heightened the sense of the exotic.

Far from the grey drizzle of home, I was actually in Tenerife, land of cheap booze, 'full English' breakfasts and partying punters - a tourist hotspot sullied by overdevelopment and bad behaviour, mostly by visitors, over the years.

Tenerife, however, wants a new reputation to lure discerning travellers back to its sun-kissed shores.

The largest of the Canary Islands off the coast of north-west Africa, this Spanish isle has a temperate climate year round, rivalling destinations such as Dubai and The Gambia for weather, with flights from Britain so much shorter.

A smattering of exclusive hotels is emerging on the west coast, far from the all-night partying of Playa de las Americas and neighbouring Los Cristianos, where apartments go so far inland they swamp the surrounding hills.

Away from all that is a Mecca of a very different kind - the five-star Sensatori Resort on the outskirts of the little village of Alcala further up the coast, around 10 minutes' drive from the dramatic cliffs of Los Gigantes in the west.

It's here that I discovered a true taste of paradise, taking in the stunning 260m infinity pool, the largest in Europe, and beyond that the shimmering Atlantic and the neighbouring island of La Gomera on the horizon.

Luxury is something Tenerife is working hard on. At Sensatori, the stunning rooms, a sea of marble flooring, sparkling chandeliers, ornate fountains, designer decor and dramatic sculptures can take your breath away.

This is Thomson's third Sensatori complex, following others in Crete and Mexico - all part of the giant operator's fightback against the DIY holiday brigade. If you don't buy your holiday from Thomson, you won't get into a Sensatori.

At night, fountains are lit to create a spectacular view that's a bit Las Vegas and not very Spanish, but something of a conversation-stopper all the same.

Bag a villa within its Red Level area and you get a butler and private pool of your own within your tropical garden, and an outdoor double bed under a thatched canopy for lounging near the water.

Elite hotels on Tenerife's west coast keep upping the stakes to offer the ultimate exclusive experience.

The Gran Hotel Bahia del Duque in Costa Adeje recently bought an impressive 12.2m private motor yacht for hire exclusively to clients, featuring the services of a crew and champagne all the way. It already offers airport-hotel helicopter transfers.

On a clifftop on the Guia de Isora, the distinctive Hotel Abama, 10 minutes by car south of Alcala, has its own golf course and academy. Famous guests include former US president Bill Clinton and Sir Paul McCartney's ex-wife Heather Mills.

Several five-star palaces have state-of-the-art spa facilities, and everything from massages with hot volcanic stones to



YHI spa, Sensatori resort, Guia de Isora.

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The Calima Michelin-starred restaurant at the Sensatori resort.

ayurvedic treatments and thalassotherapy.

At the new YHI spa in the Sensori hotel, I drifted off as the therapist combined aromatherapy with hot-stone massage to soothe aches and pains. Guests ventured into outdoor parlours for treatments, next to the infinity pool with uninterrupted ocean views.

At one time Michelin stars were unheard of on the island, but they are now part of the high-end package. At the Sensori's Michelin-starred Calima restaurant, our 12-course taster menu began with delicious dry-ice cocktails and included delicacies such as foie gras, oysters and truffle cake, accompanied by fine wines, some produced locally.

Chef Dani Garcia is a bit of a celebrity, and his language more polite than Gordon Ramsay.

But it's not only the hotels that are falling over backwards to spruce up this island.

Last year Siam Park, a water park, opened in the south, boasting the biggest artificial waves in the world of nearly 10 feet high-discerning thrillseekers have surfing lessons in the wave pool after closing time. Its surrounding beach is created with tons of silky white sand imported from Portugal.

We hired a private cabana within the park, with its own balcony overlooking the wave pool to allow us the luxury of a safe TV, DVD and wi-fi connection, and mini-bar as well as comfortable loungers and an outside shower. If you want a similar package for four, including entrance, fast-track queuing and limited all-inclusive deal in restaurants and bars, it costs around a cool €416.

Ecological measures are also being stepped up to save what is left of Tenerife's natural beauty.

Whereas tourists once strolled the quarter mile or so from the cable car to the top of Mount Teide, the island's dormant volcano and the largest mountain in Spain at 12,198ft, they now need permits to do so, thus reducing environmental impact on the summit area.

Nearly a decade ago, virtually anyone could - and did - take a boat from Los Cristianos to watch whales and dolphins. Many beautiful creatures were surrounded by boats, with tourists happily snapping away.

Under new rules, boats must be licensed and are carefully monitored to stop whales and dolphins from becoming distressed. The marine guide on our charter said that this had driven away unscrupulous operators and improved the whales' breeding cycles.

Entertainment on the island has also been upgraded. Pop legends Rod Stewart and Sir Elton John have played at the music festival at the Golf Costa Adeje, near La Caleta.

There is more culture from the Tenerife Opera House (Auditorio de Tenerife), opened in 2003 and rising out of the Atlantic like a gigantic white wave with its magnificent overhanging wing.

Situated in Santa Cruz, it is home to the capital's symphony orchestra, and is also used as a venue for performance arts including theatre, dance and Spanish operettas.

Tenerife is still home to all-night party-goers, English pubs and and bacon-and-eggs breakfasts after a heavy night.



The fountains at night in the Sensori Resort.

But if all you want is peace, quiet and serenity in the ultimate tropical setting all year, it may be closer than you ever imagined.

Key facts

Best for: Year-round sun for all types of holiday, from all-night ravers to five-star resort fans who want the ultimate in pampering.

Time to go: September/October, when weather is still sizzling, the sea is still warm, but the crowds have gone - or Christmas, to pull crackers on the beach.

Don't miss: Seeing whales and dolphins in their natural habitat on the west coast. If you charter a private boat, make sure

it is licensed.

Need to know: Golf is big on the island, with six courses charging around €80 per round, plus hire of clubs.

Don't forget: The Spanish eat later, around 9pm, with children - so change clocks for family meals out.

Travel facts

Hannah Stephenson was a guest of Thomson Holidays, which offers seven nights' full-board at the five-star Sensori Tenerife in 2010 from €869/£758 per adult (two sharing), including flights ex-Gatwick, transfers and fuel supplement, for example.

Thomson reservations: tel. 00 44 (0)871 236 5596 or go to: www.thomson.co.uk.

Freebird One organises tailor-

made private charters to watch whales and dolphins. See www.freebirdone.com for more details. *Hannah Stephenson*

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Keep your eyes open for signs of



Woman shielding her eyes from the sun.

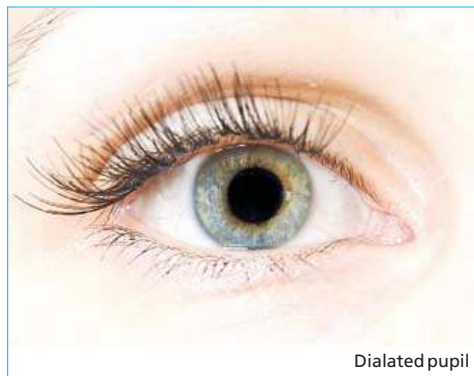
With summer season well under way, it's time to think about having outdoor fun.

But while bright sunny days and trips to the seaside are all part of summer fun, the trouble is they can put your eyes at risk.

Sunglasses are as essential as sunblock, says Carolyn Zweig, a Boots Optometrist.

"Protecting your eyes is vital, as too much exposure to harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays in sunlight can accelerate the growth of cataracts or macular degeneration, both of which can cause blindness," she warns.

"Eyes are delicate - children and people with light coloured eyes are most at risk from sun damage. And reflected light from the sea or pools is as dangerous as strong sunlight."



Dilated pupil

Carolyn advises that people look for sunglasses with a CE mark, which are up to European safety standards or BS EN 1836:2005, which are up to British standards for UV protection.

a soothing eye drop to help make the eye more comfortable - and visiting your GP.

Dry eyes

Hot, dry weather, trips on planes and working or staying in air-conditioned rooms, can be painful for dry eye sufferers.

"If your eyes regularly sting, itch or burn, or you feel you have a 'foreign body' floating about, you may be experiencing the common signs of 'dry eye'," says Dr Susan Blakeney from The College of Optometrists.

"Dry eye can be caused by ageing or because you're not producing enough good-quality tears. It can also make wearing contact lenses difficult and can lead to irritation."

See your optometrist who will advise you on how to manage this problem. Treatment may include over-the-counter moisturising drops to lubricate eyes, especially during the summer months, advises Blakeney.



Good sunglasses are essential for both adults and children

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Getting an eyeeful

Summer breezes can blow insects, specks of dust and grit into your eyes, says Dr Chris Steele from ITV's This Morning.

"If the particle can be seen on the white of the eye or inside the lids, pick it off using the moistened corner of a clean tissue or cotton-tipped bud," he advises.

"Alternatively, try to wash it out of your eye using cold water or a prepared eye wash."

If none of these methods work, Chris suggests applying

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summer

Pool and pollen perils

Swimming in pools and hay fever are the most common cause of sore, red, itchy and watery eyes that sometimes have a sticky discharge.

"Most swimming pool water contains the chemical chlorine, which can irritate the eyes causing conjunctivitis," says Dr Steele. "If the soreness is caused by hay fever and you have typi-

cal symptoms, like sneezing, itchy nose and throat, you've got seasonal allergic conjunctivitis."

If hay fever's the cause, Dr Steele advises protecting your eyes with wrap-around sunglasses, keeping windows and doors shut on high pollen count days and trying antihistamine eye drops or tablets. If symptoms last more than a few days, contact your GP.



A woman having her eyes examined.

Summer is here, and it's time to have some outdoor fun. Gabrielle Fagan give you a reminder to be extra careful about protecting your eyes from a host of possible infections and ailments that can come along with the summer sun.

Eye up the facts

- After the brain, eyes are the most complex organs we have.
- Eyes can process 36,000 bits of information every hour.
- Most of us blink around 17,000 times each and every day.
- It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.
- Around 40 per cent of people never wear sunglasses and 76 per cent don't make kids wear them, according to research by Boots and The College of Optometrists.

Eye-opening illness

General health issues are easily spotted by a high street optician during a 30-minute eye examination. A check-up every two years can make a massive difference. Here are some of the illnesses that can be spotted...

Hypertension, otherwise known as high blood pressure, can cause heart attack.

Danger signs: Damage to blood vessels in the retina.

High cholesterol, a fatty substance in blood which can raise the risk of heart attack.

Danger signs: There may be a

visible thin white line circling the iris, which is the coloured part of the eye.

Brain tumours are tissue growths that can be cancerous or non-cancerous.

Danger signs: A swelling of the optic nerve can be a sign of brain tumour, as can blind spots in your vision.

Thyroid disease can cause the thyroid gland (which regulates metabolism and energy) to produce too many hormones causing health problems.

Danger signs: Bulging or protruding eyeballs.

Diabetes can increase the risk of heart disease, stroke and kidney disease.

Danger signs: High blood-sugar levels damage tiny blood vessels in the retina - inside the eye - causing leaks of blood and fatty deposits.

Strokes can be caused by a brain blockage or bleed. People can have a series of minor strokes without noticing before suffering a major one that may result in paralysis or death.

Danger signs: Blind spots in your vision.



Eye drops being administered to a woman's eye.

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Measles Epidemic in Lesotho during April



Alexina the day she came to the centre.



Alexina with family.



At Semonkong Children's Centre we have an outbreak of measles. Most of our orphans are not vaccinated against measles. Our first sick child became ill on the 15th April 2010. A young girl called Matsiu. She is 11 yrs old and had been visiting family members at HaLesala, a nearby village. She had flu symptoms. Two days later the rash started. It was diagnosed - measles. Matsiu was extremely sick with high fever, conjunctivitis and diarrhoea.

Thankfully a Baylor doctor, Dr. Lindy, was coming up to the high mountains for a visit to our local R.C. Clinic at St Leonards Mission. Baylor Doctors used to visit Semonkong regularly but now it's usually only 1 day every 3 months. I took Matsiu along to the Clinic with our HIV infected children to see her. Dr. Lindy advised that we give her antibiotics as measles often leads to complications like pneumonia. Matsiu took her medicines and soon she was better again. For a week it seemed no one else would get sick. The calm before the storm as it turned out.

Then nine children got sick. Some were very sick and some just a little bit sick. Medicine time was taking longer and longer with many children needing treatment in the early morning, noon and night, to make sure that everyone got the care they needed. Lots of kids were in bed with fever. Most were not so bad. They didn't have conjunctivitis or any other nasty side effects. Most fully recovered quickly.

Isaiah, a high risk little boy, was also very sick and stayed in bed for a week. We took him food and drink and checked on him often. Isaiah is also on ARV's, and every time we gave him medicine he would vomit, sometimes 3 or 4 times before he kept his ARV's down. It was very stressful. Without the ARV's Isaiah could die. These infected children have low resistance due to their HIV infections. They battle to fight off a simple cold. Measles is for them, a life threatening disease. He seemed to pick up after about 3 days but then he developed a cough so we started him on antibiotics too.

One of our new girls Alexina also got sick. She started first

with pain in her thighs, and a fever. We didn't know what it was, so we consulted the nursing staff at our local St. Leonards Clinic. She was given ampicillin and vitamins and paracetamol. After 5 days she just was getting worse and not better. So we took her back to the clinic on Monday morning where they gave her another whole lot of medicines. She was getting weaker but did walk to the car and back again. That day and evening, we went in often to see her and give her drink and medicine.

The next morning, the house mother Mé Lonia and our live in granny Nkhono Mé Julia came across to the main house at 6.30am, to tell us Alexina had died in the night. It is still a huge shock for all of us. Devastating!

Then twenty children got sick. Alexina's little brother Liteboho who is 5 years old was also very sick with measles. For a few days it was touch and go. Thankfully he is better and is up and playing. As I write, all these latest cases have fully recovered.

That life and death is not in our hands we all know. It is in God's hands but to experience a sudden death of a young child and so closely is extremely hard on all of us. Patrick took Alexina's body to the Semonkong mortuary. He then had to take visitors to Maseru to the airport otherwise they would have missed their flight. So Tara stayed at home to deal with all the necessary arrangements here.

It is the first time a child has died in Semonkong Children's Centre so we had no idea what to expect. A local Chief arrived very early to show his support and to offer his help in any way possible. The kids are all amazing at dealing with the loss of one



Coffin making at Semonkong.

of their sisters. Life and death are so much closer to each other here in Africa.

That evening we called a meeting with all the kids, and shared some verses out of the Bible. You could have heard a pin drop it was so quiet! It was very moving.

Thankfully at Pulane Children's Centre we have, to date, no cases of measles. What is a fairly common childhood sickness in the west, is often life threatening in Africa. Many orphans and vulnerable children suffer malnutrition and they are under weight. If parents have recently died they are also in

grief. If their resistance is low due to an HIV infection, their young bodies battle to put up a fight against a disease like measles. It is very sad to report the death of a beautiful child called Alexina.

At the end of April, we hear that local government and Social Welfare of Lesotho have started vaccinating all school children in Lesotho, starting with our Semonkong schools. We hope and pray that this will be the end of the present outbreak and that no more children die.

Report from Tara Baanen and Jill Kinsey. 6.5.2010.

We are totally reliant on gifts from family and friends to continue our work.

If you would like to help the children of Lesotho, my bank details are:

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Decadent beauty

We might think we're being fashion-forward with pillar box red lips or electric neon eyes but so many of today's beauty secrets are borrowed from the past.

Whether it's the style of 1940s Hollywood starlet Grace Kelly or 1990s grunge à la Kate Moss, yesterday's iconic looks are still just as 'on trend' today.

Using her research, No7 creative director Lisa Eldridge help make it even easier for fashionistas to channel their chosen era.

But what's the go-to colour everyone needs in their cosmetics bag that transcends fashion fads?

"I think purple has consistently been the most popular colour of the past seven decades," Lisa reveals, "and green is the current shade of the moment".

She explains how to replicate the key feature from your favourite beauty decade - and update it with a noughties twist.

Fabulous Forties

Inspired by Hollywood screen sirens, think allure and glamour.

Key feature: Red lips

"Lips were first stained with a cherry red lipstick, ap-

plied with a lip brush," Lisa explains.

"Next, lips were lined with a lip pencil to create a well-defined look and help the lipstick last. Complete the look by blotting lips and adding Lipgloss, mainly concentrating on the centre of the bottom lip to add volume."

Flirty Fifties

Reminiscent of the technicolor era of feminine fashion.

Key feature: Blue eyes

"A block of the brightest blue shade Eye Shadow used all over the lid, blending up and over the socket line and fading towards the brow," Lisa says.

"A lighter duck egg blue shade was used at the inner corner and underneath the eye along the lower lashes."

Emphasise 1950s eyes further with a black liquid liner on the upper lid and lift at the outer corner to create an elongated flick.

Exaggerate the 'kitten' effect with extra mascara at the outer corners to lift lashes.

Swinging Sixties

Inspired by icons like Twiggy, Jean Shrimpton and David Bailey's graphic black and white photographs.

Key feature: Graphic eyes
"This look is all about the eyes," Lisa says. "The white shadow was brushed all over the lid from lash to brow."

"White was then patted on to the lid area with a sponge applicator to add a more opaque coverage."

Apply a black liquid liner thickly and close to the upper lashes. Thicken towards the outer corner and extend up and out. The same liquid liner is applied along the lower lash line and at the socket line extending at each corner for a dramatic 1960s vibe.

Supreme Seventies

New-age bohemian chic with pretty soft shades.

Key feature: Hippie chick lips

"This look works well with the current trend for pastels," Lisa explains.

"Lips were lightly coloured with a moisturising lipstick and blotted. I then Lipgloss liberally all over the lips using a lip brush."

Electric Eighties

A club look inspired by music icons and the nightclub scene.

Key feature: Neon eyes

"The fierce blue shade was applied with a damp flat brush to lay down a strong layer of colour to the lids," Lisa says.

Lisa Haynes helps give your favourite decade a new beauty twist.

"Using a dry blending brush the blue was shaded and brought out and up towards the temples. The bright orange shade was used at the inner corner and blended up towards the brow."

"Finally the lime green shade was applied on to the brow bone and taken in towards the orange shade."

Buff and soften the shadow shades with a large blending brush.

Feisty Nineties

The pared-down look of the early nineties new minimalism.

Key feature: Flawless skin

"Create the perfect base by applying your foundation with a brush," Lisa advises. Try a product Concealer under the eyes, then use a light pressed powder to give a velvety finish.

"Use a blush tint cream blush to the apples of the cheeks for a natural looking flush."

The Noughties

Smoky smouldering eyes are the must-have look of the decade.

Key feature: Smoky eyes

"Always work on your eyes first so any excess can be cleaned off, before you work on the rest of your face - always a good idea with a smoky eye," Lisa recommends.

"The brighter purple shade was used first over the eyelid as a base."

"Next, I used the deeper purple shade with a blending brush to create a deep socket line buff-



1940's

1980's

ing and blending into the outer corner of the lid."

Use an eye pencil all around the eye close to the lashes and smudge well, then use in the inner rim of the eye, top and bottom, for more intensity. Use lots of black lengthening mascara and concentrate mainly on the roots of the lashes.



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A Welcome Drink of the Terrace of Couleur France

The Algarve Wine Society



Ken & Margaret Matterson enjoying their meal

Enjoys a Spectacular
Gourmet Dinner at Couleur
France

On Wednesday, 28th April, 85 members and guests of the Algarve Wine Society were treated to a memorable gourmet dinner prepared by John Thompson, Executive Chef at Couleur France in Almaniçil.

Participants were received with a glass of Croft's Pink Port served over ice with tonic water and some fresh summer fruits, all of which was wickedly moreish!

For starters there was a choice between grilled scallops with fresh asparagus and lemon grass beurre blanc or sautéed chilli tiger prawns on a bruschetta with rocket salad. This course was accompanied by Dom Rafael Branco 2008 from Mouchão in the Alentejo.

There followed a middle



Eileen & Terry Rutter



Lyn & John Davies

course of black ravioli of crab and lobster with cherry tomatoes and a ginger spring onion sauce accompanied by Crasto Branco 2008 from Quinta do Crasto in the Douro.

For the main course there was a choice between three cuts of black pork from the Alentejo (fillet, rib & belly) or crispy roasted sea bass accompanied by Dom Rafael Tinto 2007 and Crasto DOC Douro 2008.

Each of these wines were introduced by John Fordyce from Herdade do Mouchão and by Pedro Almeida from Quinta do Crasto.

For dessert there was a choice between a Trio of mini desserts or the sumptuous Chocolate fondant with chocolate fudge sauce accompanied

by Quinta do Crasto LBV 2004, the latter being introduced by Raul Ribadeneira, ex brand manager of Taylors and now with Direct Wine in Oporto.

The next events in the Algarve Wine Society's Spring calendar will be a 5 day trip to Galicia in early May, a Bairrada evening, featuring that region's wonderful sparkling wines and leitão, in Tavira on Friday, May 28, and the Society's traditional summer party on Sunday, June 27.

Membership in The Algarve Wine Society is at its upper limit, and there is a waiting list, but if you would like further information please contact the Society's Secretary, Larry Hampton by email: hampton@mail.telepac.pt

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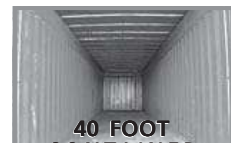
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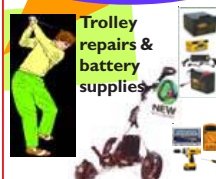
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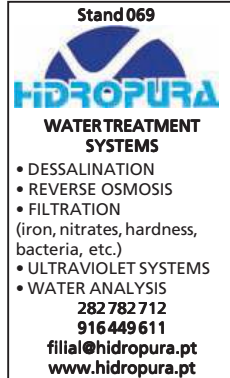


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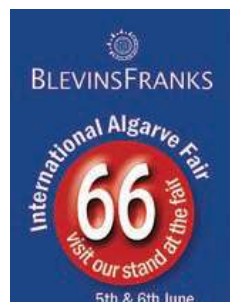
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Algarve Dog Show

Much bigger and better. Lots of classes for your dog to enter, fun activities plus the BIG SIT and BIG HEART award.

Grand Draw

Every entry ticket gives you the opportunity of free entry into the grand draw. The star prize is an RCI Mediterranean one-week cruise for two and there's Sightseeing Flights, Beauty Treatments, Hot Air Balloon Flights, 2 Night 'Getaways', Hotel Accommodation and Golf Rounds to be won on both days.

Wine Show

Several different wine companies will be bringing their top vintages. Space to sit, talk and taste.

Business + Zone

A new area in the Pavilion which will be quieter and more reserved. Incorporating a lounging area and champagne bar.

Games Area

Especially for children (but adults will like it too). Fairground games, bouncy castle, lots of prizes.

Fire & Rescue displays all day

The Lagoa firemen plus fire engine, ambulance and special 'rescue' and lifesaving demonstrations for children and the chance to put out a real fire!

Children's Art

'Me and My Phone' art competition for children sponsored by Optimus. This promises to be a wonderful art display on the back wall of the Pavilion.

Sports Clubs and Workshops

Find out about art, ballet, football school, scuba diving, flower arranging, cooking, fashion and more at the daily workshops and demos and in the Club area.

Food Arena

Several international restaurants serving delicious food including Pizza from Italy, Surinam Food, Salads, Wraps,

Hog Roast from UK, Chicken Piri-piri w/ *Batata Frita* from Portugal, Tapas from Spain, Curries from India and Pies from the UK and vegetarian dishes.

Arts & Crafts Market

A dedicated section for artisans to show off their wares in a beautiful tented area. Some wonderful products will be on offer.

All Day Entertainment

Children's ballet, choirs, music and singing, fashion shows and our special parade twice a day with the Algarve Fair jingle!

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Come and enjoy the hospitality of The Portugal News in their special café situated in the Pavilion. Buy a *bica* and a *pastel de nata* for €1.50 and you'll receive a free commemorative Portugal News travel hairbrush and mirror.

Entrance & Prizes

Entrance is only €3 per person and children under 12 are admitted free. With every entry ticket you have the opportunity to enter the Grand Draw.

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Benfica crowned kings of Portuguese football



Tommy Broad

Benfica have crowned themselves Liga Sagres champions after a nail biting season that was only decided in the final round. The 'Reds' beat Rio Ave 2-1 at the Luz Stadium last Sunday, with the whole nation going wild at the final whistle and celebrating throughout the night.

Benfica's season has been a stellar one to say the least, having won 24 of their 30 matches and lost only two, with the most impressive statistic being their goal difference of +58, having scored 30 more goals than second placed Braga. Their offensive character displayed from the beginning of the season made this season's team the best scoring Benfica in the past 45 years, having conquered their 32nd national title.

Throughout the whole season, Benfica scored 124 goals in 51 matches.

Cardozo became the Liga's top scorer in the final round as he scored both of Benfica's goals, putting him one goal in front of his closest rival Falcão (FC Porto). The Paraguayan striker scored 26 goals, one third of all Benfica's goals in the Liga Sagres. The last occasion a Benfica player was awarded the best scorer was in the 1990/1991 season.

Their match to clinch the title against Rio Ave on Sunday night was a hard fought one, having taken an early lead thanks to Cardozo's sense of opportunity.

All seemed to be going Benfica's way as Braga suffered a goal in their match, which practically guaranteed the 'Reds' glory. Rio Ave managed to equalise twenty minutes from the end, as did Braga, causing some concern to Benfica fans all over Portugal. However, Cardozo put all Benfica's fears behind as he scored the winner ten minutes from the final whistle.

With an estimated 6 million Benfica fans in Portugal, waves of red filled the streets all across the country. Tens of thousands of people gathering at Marquês de Pombal roundabout in Lisbon, which was closed for several hours for celebrations.

Jorge Jesus, Benfica's manager, was ecstatic with the result at the post match interview: "Our objective was achieved. Ever since the first day we knew we could do it. It was a tough game, with lots of anxiety regarding the result. We knew how to wait for the right opportunities", he said, adding "We were the best team all year, the one that scored most goals all season. We are fair winners."

Benfica fans applaud their team during a ceremony in Lisbon on May 10th. (Photo: Lusa/ João Relvas)

Portugal's squad announced for 2010 South Africa World Cup

Portugal manager Carlos Queiroz this week announced the 24 players that will comprise Portugal's squad this year in South Africa, just weeks before the competition begins.

"The World Cup will begin at a time when almost all players are on holidays. There are some situations during pre-tournament camp that can happen and we want to be sure that at the time of making a decision everybody is prepared to have the same opportunities to play" said Carlos Queiroz. The Portuguese Fed-

eration has had a complicated task up until now, keeping a close eye on several athletes with on-going injuries and tough final matches of the season "Our medical team, and I, had to accompany all the details and evolution of some recoveries" said Queiroz.

Speaking of Cristiano Ronaldo's importance, the Portuguese manager hopes he can play at his best level without any physical limitations, as was the case in Portugal's qualifying stages.

Speaking of Portugal's first

match in South Africa, on June 15th against Ivory Coast, Carlos Queiroz said "The first game is always important."

The 24 man squad that will compete in the 2010 South Africa World Cup is as follows: Eduardo, Beto, Daniel Fernandes, Paulo Ferreira, Miguel, Ricardo Carvalho, Bruno Alves, Pepe, Rolando, Ricardo Costa, Duda, Fábio Coentrão, Zé Castro, Nani, Cristiano Ronaldo, Hugo Almeida, Liedson, Danny, Simão, Miguel Veloso, Raul Meireles, Deco, Tiago and Pedro Mendes.

Regarding players that participated in the qualifying stages but

have not been called for the finals, the Portuguese manager said: "I know the decision comes as a disappointment to some players due to their sporting merit and professional commitment, including for the national squad, but in the future they will definitely have other opportunities to win games for Portugal, and qualify the country for other competitions."

Frederico Gil loses to Montañes in Estoril Open final

Frederico Gil's dream run in the Estoril Open almost ended in absolute glory as he was three games ahead of last year's winner Albert Montañes in the third set of the final. Montañes managed to recover and so revalidated his title at the Estoril Open.

"It was a shame, I could have done a little more in the last part of the match. Montañes had a more solid game than me and it was noticeable towards the end of the match" said Frederico Gil, after losing out to the defending Estoril Open champion in the final of the event.

The first Portuguese tennis

player to compete in the final of an ATP event, Gil lost 6-2, 6-7 (7-4) and 7-5, unable to maintain his three game advantage in the final set, but very happy with the result nevertheless. Frederico Gil is currently seeded 133rd in the world and should edge closer to the top 100 with his presence in this final.

Spanish player Albert Montañes was obviously very happy with his second consecutive win of the Estoril Open, knocking out Roger Federer in the semi-final and managing to overcome his deficit in the final set against Gil.

After easily beating the Portuguese in the first set 6-2, Montañes admitted things "got complicated in the end of the second set."

To reach the final, Frederico Gil beat Florian Mayer (sixth favourite), Santiago Giraldo, Rui Machado and Guillermo Garcia Lopez (fifth favourite). Montañes went automatically into the second round of the tournament as he was fourth favourite to win, and on the way knocked out Daniel Gimeno-Traver, Pablo Cuevas, Roger Federer and Frederico Gil in the final.

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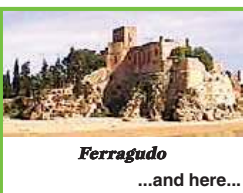
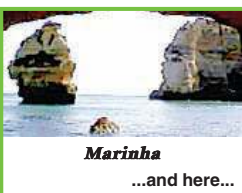
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